

Vintage 2012

# 2012 SAINT CLAIR DAWN MÉTHODE TRADITIONNELLE SPECIAL RESERVE



*Hand crafted, bottle aged and fermented. Marlborough  
Méthode Traditionnelle.*

*Created in celebration of and tribute to Dawn Abbotson,  
the matriarch of Saint Clair, who accomplished one  
hundred years on 12 December 2014.*

## *Harvested:*

March 2012

## *Tirage:*

February 2013

## *Dosage:*

May 2019

## *Colour:*

Medium straw coloured with a lasting,  
fine bead.

## *Aroma:*

Toasted almond, savoury yeast  
autolysis, citrus zest and biscuit aromas.  
Incredibly diverse secondary aromas.

## *Palate:*

Exquisite richness and focus, brioche  
like autolysis, with yellow apple,  
dried fruits and an exceptionally well  
developed secondary flavour spectrum.

## *Ageing potential:*

Will benefit from careful, horizontal  
cellaring for ten years and beyond.

## *Viticulture:*

Sourced from the well-drained stone  
and sand alluvium of Rapaura Road,

in vineyards overlooked by the Saint  
Clair Vineyard Kitchen.

A blend of 72% clone 95 Chardonnay  
and 28% Clone 5 Pinot Noir grown  
on spur pruned and sylvos trained 20  
year old vines.

## *Winemaking:*

Hand harvested and whole bunch  
pressed, the free run Chardonnay juice  
is steel tank fermented and left to  
undergo malolactic fermentation until  
late spring, stirred on lees throughout.  
The Pinot Noir is light pressed  
and fermented cool in old French  
barriques, allowed to mature on light  
lees until blending in early January  
of the next year to prepare for tirage  
nearly one year from the harvest date.

The bottle fermentation takes place  
over 6 weeks and bottles are left to rest  
for 75 months until being disgorged  
and liqueur de dosage is added.

## *Wine analysis:*

Alcohol 12.5% v/v, Residual sugar  
6.5g/L, Acidity 7.2g/L, pH 3.20

## *Food match:*

Perfect for celebration, as an aperitif or  
match with freshly shucked oysters.

**SENIOR WINEMAKERS:**  
STEWART MACLENNAN  
HAMISH CLARK



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