



# FELTON ROAD

## Recent Reviews

GOURMET TRAVELLER

# WINE

**100 Top New Releases  
New Zealand Reds**

Oct/Nov 2014

**98** ★★★★★

**2013 Felton Road  
Block 3 Pinot Noir,  
Central Otago,  
A\$110/NZ\$92**

Dense, richly textured pinot with an array of dark berry, plum, spices and earthy flavours. With time the wine revealed roasted chestnut and floral characters. Warming, complex wine that is silken smooth with a lingering finish.

**95** ★★★★★

**2013 Felton Road  
Bannockburn Pinot Noir,  
Central Otago,  
A\$70/NZ\$59**

Cherry, spice and an intriguing savoury character with a subtle suggestion of oak. It doesn't quite have the same concentration as the Block 3, but it certainly boasts a similarly smooth texture and shows a strong family identity.

GOURMET TRAVELLER

# WINE

**New Zealand Chardonnay  
Top 12 Tasted and Rated**

Oct/Nov 2014

**96** ★★★★★

**2013 Felton Road  
Elms Chardonnay,  
Central Otago,  
A\$37/NZ\$33**

Biodynamically grown grapes from the gently sloping, north-facing Elms vineyard were whole-bunched pressed and fermented in stainless-steel tanks to preserve primary fruit flavours before being aged in seasoned oak barrels on full yeast lees. Pure, fine-boned chardonnay with subtle power and flavours suggesting hazelnut, bran biscuit, mineral and grapefruit. Very elegant with an ethereal texture and mouth-tingling acidity. I find it stylistically similar to a Chassagne-Montrachet.

**96** ★★★★★

**2013 Felton Road  
Bannockburn Chardonnay,  
Central Otago,  
A\$53/NZ\$40**

Each of Felton Road's three vineyards provided grapes for this wine. The grapes were whole-bunched pressed, fermented in French oak barrels using indigenous yeast and aged for 12 months in oak. Wonderfully pure, yet subtly flavoursome and powerful chardonnay with chalky mineral, nectarine, brioche and hazelnut characters making up the more dominant flavours. It has the purity and power of Burgundy with strong Kiwi and Central Otago accents.

THE WINEFRONTNZ  
SINCE 2002 100% INDEPENDENT WINE REVIEWS

JAMES SUCKLING.COM 

### Felton Road Riesling Bannockburn 2014

Wonderful fragrances of lightly grilled nuts, citrus, fresh flowers, marzipan. Super fresh smelling and the clarity in the glass is really attractive. Light in texture too, a sweet Riesling effectively, but with gentle curves of sweetness, finishes with chalkiness and a lively squeeze of lime. It's delicate, pure, pretty in sweetness so well balanced. Fantastic.

**Rated: 95 Points**

**Drink: 2014-2024**

### Felton Road Bannockburn Chardonnay 2013

Juicy lime, floral, some struck match and vanilla oak. Powerful, though only medium bodied, flinty and tight, mouth perfume, long flinty finish. Whoosh. That's very good. So brisk and firm.

**Rated: 94 Points**

**Drink: 2014-2022**

### Felton Road Pinot Noir Bannockburn 2013

Rich red cherry, peppery, aniseed perfume, spice. Bright red fruit, fresh and chalky feel, plenty of energy and life in this little puppy. Thyme, touch of smoke and fresh cherry on a long and well detailed finish. Beauty.

**Rated: 94 Points**

**Drink: 2015-2024**

### # 8, Top 100 Wines for 2014

#### 2012 Pinot Noir Block 5

Block 5 is in a class of its own, showing an immensely powerful style with elegance and poise - really impressive. A swirling array of spice and fragrance here. There's a chalky, stony layer underlying the whole thing. Dense, dark pinot noir fruit on offer with super-bright cherry aromas and gently earthy nuances, with a hint of cola, too. The palate texture is impeccably dense and there's an athletic, lithe, juicy personality that makes for exciting tasting. There's a wealth of compact tannins that layer up impressively and deliver a surge of energy through the finish. Plenty of pure cherry and boysenberry. Rarely do you find wine with this much tension, power and poise. Drink in 2016. 97 points  
28.10.2014

## Decanter

the world's best wine magazine

### 2013 Felton Road, Dry Riesling, Bannockburn, Central Otago

**18.5/20pts (95/100pts)**

Rich, ripe apricot and stone fruit on the nose and palate - this wine is enticingly perfumed and bursting with flavour. Rounded acidity makes for easy drinking. Price: £18-£23.49 Berry Bros & Rudd, Hawkshead Wines, Les Caves de Pyrène, The Secret Cellar Drink 2014-2016 Alc 12%

### 2013 Felton Road, Riesling, Bannockburn, Central Otago

**17.5/20pts (91/100pts)**

Trademark apricot notes but a sweeter style. The persistent fruit gives a finish as long as Felton Road's dry version, but broader - like a glass of apricot patisserie. Price: £18-£23.49 Berry Bros & Rudd, Cornish Point, Hawkshead Wines, Les Caves de Pyrène, The Secret Cellar Drink 2014-2016 Alc 9.5%

FELTON ROAD WINES LTD  
BANNOCKBURN RD2  
CENTRAL OTAGO 9191 NEW ZEALAND  
www.FeltonRoad.com

TEL 64 3 445 0885

FAX 64 3 445 0881

E-MAIL wines@FeltonRoad.com



## Campbell's top 20 Kiwi Pinots

**Felton Road, Calvert, Pinot Noir,  
Bannockburn, Central Otago 2012  
19.5 (98)**

I found this wine hard to read when first poured, but it expanded in the glass to reveal a Pinot Noir of great power and purity with a rapier-like focus and an incredibly lengthy finish.

**Drink** 2014-2023 *Alc* 14%



**2013 Pinot Noir Block 5 94 points**

Med to deep ruby-purple, the 2013 Block 5 Pinot Noir is youthfully mute on the nose with subtle cherry and pomegranate notes plus underlying plum and garrigue hints with some Chinese five spice and tree bark. Medium bodied and very earthy, it fills the mouth with densely packed savory layers and firm grainy tannins, finishing long.

**2013 Pinot Noir Block 3 92+ points**

Medium to deep ruby-purple, the 2013 Block 3 Pinot Noir offers a herbal laced nose with notes of Provence herbs and dried lavender over a core of mulberries and warm red currants plus touches of roses, cloves and cedar. Firm and structured in the mouth with layers of currant and mulberry laced flavors supported by chewy tannins, it finishes with great length.

**2013 Pinot Noir Cornish Point 92+ points**

Medium to deep ruby-purple colored, the 2013 Cornish Point Pinot Noir is a little closed on the nose showing nuances of black fruits, mossy bark and fertile loam with a floral undercurrent. Medium bodied with a great core of expressive red and black cherry flavors supported by firm grainy tannins and just enough acid, it finishes long with a herbal lift.

**2013 Pinot Noir Calvert 91+ points**

Medium-deep ruby-purple in color, the 2013 Calvert Pinot Noir has a nose of dusty earth, warm red currants and cassis accented by pencil lead and hints of baking spices. Medium bodied and tightly-knit on the palate, it gives a great concentration of red and black fruit flavors, chewy tannins and earthy layers that emerge in the long finish.

**2013 Pinot Noir Bannockburn 91 points**

Medium ruby-purple, the 2013 Pinot Noir has a funky nose with pleasant meaty / earthy characters over notes of blackberries and mulberries with black cherry, rose hip tea and Provence herb accents. Medium bodied with plenty of ripe red fruit lifted by a gentle herbal character in the mouth, it has a medium level of silky tannins and just enough acid, finishing long and earthy.

**2013 Chardonnay Block 2 93 points**

The Block 2 Chardonnay has wonderfully expressive apricot and apple tart notes with underlying ginger, cashew and lightly browned toast hints. Medium bodied and packed with youthful apple and citrus flavors supported by crisp acid, it has a long spice and nut laced finish.

**2013 Chardonnay Bannockburn 91 points**

The 2013 Chardonnay has pretty white blossom notes – orange and peach blossoms – over a core of grapefruit, white peaches and baking bread with a hint of marzipan. Medium bodied and still very tight in the mouth, it has great tension lifting the citrus and stone fruit flavors, finishing long and creamy.

**2014 Riesling Block 1 91+ points**

The 2014 Block 1 Riesling has a slightly reticent nose at this youthful stage of lemongrass, lime leaves and green apples with a touch of wild thyme. Medium-sweet and light bodied with a racy acid backbone, it has a very long citrus laced finish.

**2014 Riesling Bannockburn 90+ points**

The 2014 Riesling has a great core of lemon / lime aromas with a herbal undercurrent and subtle notes of wet pebbles and white pepper. The light bodied, medium-sweet palate offers rasping acidity to cut through the intense flavors, finishing long and steely.

**2014 Dry Riesling 90 points**

Beautiful lime juice and grapefruit peel notes with a lovely perfume of orange blossoms and honeysuckle. Light bodied, dry and refreshing with an appealingly steely palate and long mineral-laced finish. 2016-2020.

**Lisa Perrotti-Brown  
2014**

*Stephen Tanzer's*  
INTERNATIONAL WINE CELLAR

**2013 Felton Road Chardonnay Bannockburn Central Otago 90 Points**

Bright peach and apricot aromas are lifted by lime and stone. Concentrated, pliant and smooth, offering a lovely restrained sweetness to its flavors of stone fruits, lime and spices. Very suave but not yet showy, with a firm-edged finish calling for a year or two of patience.

**2012 Felton Road Chardonnay Block 2 Central Otago 91 Points**

Pale yellow. High-pitched aromas of crystallized lemon peel and lime oil. Dense and energetic, offering excellent definition and inner-mouth tension to the brisk citrus and mineral flavors. Boasts terrific spine for New Zealand chardonnay without coming across as green or hard. Long and tactile on the aftertaste.

**2013 Felton Road Pinot Noir Calvert Central Otago 91 Points**

Good bright dark red. Pungent, slightly liqueur-like aromas of dark cherry, raspberry and brown spices lifted by pepper and rose petal topnotes. Boasts lovely depth and concentration to its piquant dark raspberry and spice flavors. Dense, sappy wine with terrific inner-palate energy. Finishes high-pitched and dry, with a serious dusting of tannins and excellent definition, grip and lift.

**2013 Felton Road Pinot Noir Cornish Point Central Otago 91(+?) Points**

Good deep, saturated red. Sappy, explosive aromas of cherry and dark raspberry. Boasts an outstanding core of berry fruit and spice flavors, with a saline impression of extract adding another dimension. Finishes dense and rich but youthfully tight, with serious intensity and length. Still a baby.

**2013 Felton Road Pinot Noir Bannockburn Central Otago 91(+?) Points**

Good bright, deep red. Red berry and spice aromas are enlivened by a flinty mineral element. Sappy, juicy and tightly wound, with terrific smoky mineral vigor giving thrust to the dark berry flavors. Finishes backward and classically dry, with an impression of energy rare for New Zealand pinot noir. Gained in complexity without losing its verve with 48 hours in the recorked bottle. This firmly built pinot should be even better with three or four years of cellaring.

**2013 Felton Road Pinot Noir Block 3 Central Otago 92 Points**

Good bright, deep red. Deep, dark, fully ripe aromas of black raspberry, minerals, flowers, red licorice and brown spices lifted by a peppery nuance. Fat, pliant and sweet, offering superb density and depth to its berry, spice and mineral flavors. Energized by its spine of saline minerality. A New Zealand pinot of rare density and length, finishing with firm-edged tannins and lingering spices. Balanced from the outset but built for a graceful evolution in bottle.

**2012 Felton Road Pinot Noir Block 5 Central Otago 93(+?) Points**

Good medium red. Inviting spicy high tones to the aromas of red berries, pepper and smoky minerality. Tangy, taut and savory in the mouth; less supple than the 2013 Block 3 example today but more intensely flavored, with a strong saline quality that contributes to the impression of inner-mouth tension but currently partly masks the wine's sweet red fruit and spice flavors. The firm-edged tannins call for at least a few years of cellaring. My sample showed great staying power, retaining its red fruit, spice and smoky mineral flavors for several days in the recorked bottle. Outstanding potential-and one of the most complete New Zealand pinots of 2012. (Felton Road's Block 5 and Block 3 are adjacent vineyards planted on deep loess soil, the latter with some calcareous deposits. The Block 3 features a 1992 planting of a Swiss selection similar to the Wadenswil that's commonly found in Oregon, while Block 5 was planted in 1993 to a UC-Davis Pommard clone. Both wines are vinified with about 30% whole clusters.)

*Stephen Tanzer*  
*Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar*  
*Sep/Oct 2014*

FELTON ROAD WINES LTD  
BANNOCKBURN RD2  
CENTRAL OTAGO 9191 NEW ZEALAND  
www.FeltonRoad.com

TEL 64 3 445 0885

FAX 64 3 445 0881

E-MAIL wines@FeltonRoad.com