

Rockburn Wines Central Otago running White Hot - striking a Pure Gold at Air New Zealand Wine Awards & Double Trophy in Hong Kong (HKIWSC)

Rockburn Wines' commitment to delivering a pure expression of Central Otago to your glass is delivering success at home and abroad. Not only has the Rockburn Pinot Noir 2010 struck Gold yet again, this time in the influential Air New Zealand Wine awards 2011, but their Riesling 2009 has collected two Trophies at the Cathay Pacific Hong Kong International Wine and Spirit Competition 2011.

The Pure Gold award (denoting sustainable wines of Gold medal standard) from the Air New Zealand Wine Awards was one of just 14 handed out to the Pinot Noir category, and one of only 64 Pure Golds for the 1,489 wines entered into the competition. The Rockburn Pinot Noir 2010 also collected a Pure Gold in the Open Red category.

Air New Zealand General Manager Marketing and Communications Mike Tod congratulated the gold medal winners, saying it was fantastic to see the very high standard of entries across the spectrum of varieties.

"Air New Zealand prides itself on showcasing the very best of New Zealand to the millions of customers travelling with us each year, and food and wine is a critical differentiator for us. We look forward to bringing a taste of a number of these award-winning wines to our customers in the coming months."

Alongside the Air New Zealand Wine Awards announcement came the news that the Rockburn Riesling 2009 had not only collected Gold at the Cathay Pacific Hong Kong International Wine and Spirit Competition 2011 but had also been announced double-trophy winner for Best New World Riesling and Best Riesling. The HKIWSC is a unique event, run in partnership with the London-based International Wine & Spirit Competition, which has been running for 40 years and is the world's premier platform for recognizing quality in the industry, Hong Kong International Wine & Spirit Competition is created specifically for the Asian market by those who know and are intimately involved in the region.

Rockburn's winemaker, Malcolm Rees-Francis, commented, "Wonderful to receive recognition for our Riesling and a double trophy win is simply outstanding. I'm sure this will introduce Central Otago Riesling to a wider audience; our Rieslings have a lot to offer but do tend to dwell in the shadow of our Pinot Noirs. Although the Pure Gold for our 2010 Pinot shows there is a very long shadow cast..."

Rockburn's Pinot Noir is a pure expression of Central Otago derived from the estate vineyard sites at Gibbston and Parkburn and the 2010 vintage contributes to a long and proud tradition of success.

Over the last decade, Rockburn Wines have shown as one of the most consistently awarded Pinot Noir producers, including the trophy for 'Champion Pinot Noir' at the 2008 Air New Zealand Awards, 'Best Pinot Noir' and the Trophy for 'Wine of Show' at the Association of Australian Boutique Winemakers Awards 2010, 'Best Pinot Noir Trophy' at the Shanghai International Wine Challenge 2010, Gold Best in Class at the IWSC (London)

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RRP \$45.00 (NZ\$) and available now at Glengarry stores and on-line.

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