



**Press Release from Rockburn Wines Ltd
13 November 2008**

Rockburn Pinot Noir 2007 Earns Gold at Air New Zealand Wine Awards

The Rockburn Pinot Noir 2007 has earned a gold medal at New Zealand's most prestigious wine competition, the Air New Zealand Wine Awards.

The 2008 competition saw a record 1,751 entries from New Zealand's 10 winegrowing regions. The wines were judged by a panel of 26 wine experts, chaired by Steve Smith MW. Ninety-one gold medals were awarded across all varietal categories.

The competition is owned and organised by New Zealand Winegrowers, the national organisation for the country's 1,300 grapegrowers and winemakers.

This is the fourth gold medal for the Rockburn Pinot Noir 2007 this year, having earned gold medals at the San Francisco International Wine Competition, New Zealand International Wine Show and Liquorland Top 100 Wine Competition.

The wine recently earned a Top 10 placing and Five Star rating from New Zealand's premier food and wine magazine, *Cuisine*, who commented that "Rockburn winemaker Malcolm Francis is well versed in harnessing concentrated ripe fruit with skill and care."

Furthermore, Neal Martin awarded the wine with a 90-91/100 rating in the May 2008 edition of *The Wine Advocate* in the USA.

Rockburn Wines has a history of winning gold medals, particularly for its Pinot Noir, at such shows as the Air New Zealand Awards, the New Zealand International Wine Show and the New Zealand Royal Easter Show. The Rockburn Pinot Noir 2006 also won the "Champion Open Red" Trophy at the Air New Zealand Wine Awards in 2007.

Rockburn has two vineyards in Central Otago, one on the Gibbston Back Road in the Gibbston Valley and the other at Parkburn in the Cromwell Basin.

While renowned for its award-winning Pinot Noir, Rockburn also produces Pinot Gris, Riesling, Gewurztraminer, Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc.

RRP NZ\$42.00

Trade Sales: Hancocks Wines and Spirits, 0800 699 463

Consumers: Available direct from winery at www.rockburn.co.nz

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Air New Zealand Wine Awards: www.airnewzealandwineawards.co.nz