

MARTINBOROUGH A-LISTERS

Both Ata Rangi and Dry River can lay claim to being founders of grape-growing and winemaking in the Martinborough (NZ) district, about 85 km (some of them torturous – over the Rimutaka Range) by road from Wellington. As you'll see from the tasting notes, the two producers follow different stylistic pathways. Not only that, but Dry River uses traditional corks to seal bottles. Ata Rangi wines are screw-capped.

Dry River

2015 Dry River Craighall Vineyard Martinborough Riesling If you like your rieslings rich, slightly sweet and with a strong leaning towards Alsace, this one could be for you. It has apricot-like overtones and is no shrinking violet, with plenty of flavour, texture and structure. (\$75.00)
★★★☆ cork

2015 Dry River Martinborough Pinot Gris The Alsace connection continues with this very rich, slightly sweet pinot gris which shows tropical fruit overtones. The phenolic grip balances the full-on flavour. (\$90.00) ★★★★ cork

2015 Dry River Lovat Vineyard Martinborough Gewürztraminer What could be more Alsatian than gewürztraminer? This wine rounds off the Alsace theme with style and panache. It has that classic rose petal and spice aroma, and a substantial (monumental even) slightly sweet palate. We liked this one so much that I whipped up a quick matching dish – pork chop with sautéed shredded cabbage flavoured with apple, honey and pomegranate molasses. (\$75.00) ★★★★☆ cork
<https://www.langtons.com.au/product/29967/1/2015/dry-river/search?basket=33287>

2014 Dry River Martinborough Chardonnay The nose offers very fresh white peach aromas with citrus overtones. Palate-wise we have excellent fruit weight and linear acidity without any significant oak impact. Gentle phenolics and lees influence add to a pleasing mouthfeel. (\$80.00) ★★★★ cork

2014 Dry River Martinborough Pinot Noir A style all its own - almost plummy, but fresh and still varietal. There's an attractive whiff of oak which this full-flavoured pinot absorbs with ease. A Martinborough that could be mistaken for a Central Otago. (\$120.00) ★★★★ cork

Ata Rangi

2014 Ata Rangi Craighall Martinborough Chardonnay The nose is powerful and vibrant, white peach aromas being enhanced by a touch of lees-derived ground almond character. If you're into texture, the palate has plenty without being over-phenolic. A very pleasant drink indeed. (\$48.00) ★★★★☆
<http://www.winestar.com.au/ata-rangi-craighall-chardonnay-2014>

September 21, 2016

2015 Ata Rangi Lismore Martinborough Pinot Gris This is a very impressive example of the variety. Intense stone fruit, nuts and honey characteristics show on both nose and palate. The rich, fresh flavour is backed up to the hilt by finely tuned phenolics and a creaminess that greatly enhances the palate. (\$30.00) ★★★★

<http://www.winestar.com.au/ata-rangi-lismore-pinot-gris-2015>

2015 Ata Rangi Crimson Pinot Noir An attractive melange of dark cherries and red berries with a hint of stems. The flavour is on the light side, but as a fresh, drink-now style, this wine is definitely successful. (\$36.00) ★★★★



2014 Ata Rangi Martinborough Pinot Noir A voluptuous, perfumed Ata Rangi that really turns on the charm. Stems input contributes complexity to the very fragrant nose, and the firmness from skin tannins and oak is matched by the well-rounded fruit component. Cellaring will certainly be rewarded. (\$75.00) ★★★★

<http://www.winestar.com.au/ata-rangi-pinot-noir-2014>

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