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RUTHERFORD HOTEL
NELSON

A *H*ERITAGE® HOTEL

Wine List



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Wines by the glass

| Sparkling | Region | 200ml |
|----------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Deutz Cuveé NV | Marlborough | \$19.50 |
| Brancott Reserve Brut Cuveé NV | | \$10.50 |
| Brancott Reserve Sauvignon Blanc | | \$10.50 |

| Sauvignon Blanc | Region | Glass |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Blackenbrook | Nelson | \$9.00 |
| Greenhough | Nelson | \$9.50 |
| Montana Festival Block | Marlborough | \$8.50 |

| Chardonnay | | |
|------------------------|----------|---------------|
| Tasman Bay | Nelson | \$9.50 |
| Montana Festival Block | Gisborne | \$8.50 |

| Pinot Gris & Riesling | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| Stoneleigh Pinot Gris | Marlborough | \$10.50 |
| Framingham Classic Riesling | Marlborough | \$10.50 |

| Cabernet Sauvignon and Blends | | |
|--|-------------|----------------|
| Waimea Estate | Nelson | \$9.50 |
| Montana Festival Block Merlot, Cab. Sav. | Marlborough | \$8.50 |
| Church Road Cabernet Merlot | Hawke's Bay | \$11.00 |

| Shiraz | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Wyndham Estate, George Wyndham | South Australia | \$10.50 |

| Pinot Noir | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Montana Festival Block | Waipara | \$9.00 |
| Waimea | Nelson | \$10.00 |
| Prophets Rock, Rocky Point | Central Otago | \$11.00 |

Champagnes and Sparkling Wines

| Champagne | Region | 375ml | 750ml |
|---|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| <p>Pol Roger NV It has a lovely floral bouquet, refreshing fruit flavours and an exquisite mousse of tiny bubbles. A popular, versatile style and for all occasions. Light, but with backbone.</p> | Epernay | \$85.00 | \$162.00 |
| <p>Moët Chandon NV Its aromas are radiant, revealing bright white-fleshed fruits (apple, pear, white peach), citrus fruits (lemon), floral nuances (lime blossom) and elegant blond notes (brioche and fresh nuts). The palate is seductive, richly flavourful and smooth combining generosity and elegance, fullness and finesse, followed by a delicately fresh crispiness (fruit with seeds), to reveal the magical balance of champagne.</p> | Epernay | \$72.00 | \$135.00 |
| <p>Veuve Cliquot This classical dry Champagne is a blend of two-thirds black grapes (Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier) for body, balanced with one-third Chardonnay for elegance. It has a fine persistent sparkle and golden Champagne color.</p> | Reims | | \$145.00 |
| Sparkling Wine | Region | 200ml | 750ml |
| <p>Deutz Cuveé NV Fresh, bright, lifted nose with toasty notes. The palate shows strawberry and lemon with rich yeast flavours. Elegant and well balanced with a long, lingering aftertaste.</p> | Marlborough | \$19.50 | \$69.00 |
| <p>Brancott Reserve Brut Cuveé NV This wine is light lemon/green in colour, with a nose featuring delicate citric notes of lemon and cream combined with fresh bread and yeasty notes. The palate is fresh, long and elegant, with the lemony citric elements and creamy yeast textural palate weight balancing the acidity, offering a long clean mineral finish.</p> | | \$10.50 | \$34.00 |
| <p>Brancott Reserve Sauvignon Blanc The wine is pale straw in colour with fine-beaded mousse. The nose is characterised by aromas of ripe tropical fruit and vibrant passionfruit. The palate shows intense stone fruit flavours and is full and textural with a tantalising minerality. This wine shows fantastic equilibrium of concentrated fruit flavours and zesty acidity.</p> | | \$10.50 | \$34.00 |

White Wines

| Sauvignon Blanc | Region | 750ml |
|--|--------------------|----------------|
| Waimea Estate This lovely example of Nelson Sauvignon has aromas of grapefruit, lime zest and passion fruit with an intensely flavoured palate showing excellent weight, bright acidity and an impressively long finish. | Nelson | \$39.00 |
| Greenhough Pungent, passionfruit and tropical-fruits to the fore with subtle citrus and herbal aromatics The palate is mouth filling rather than explosive, with texture and light spiciness. Sweet fruit runs from start to finish with a firmer, zesty edge and a defining, sweet acidity to end. | Nelson | \$44.00 |
| Blackenbrook A vibrant young wine. A strong sense of gooseberry on the nose. On the palate the wine is young, crisp with tropical fruit flavours such as passion fruit. Nicely balanced acidity. | Nelson | \$41.00 |
| Lawson's Dry Hills The hallmarks of this wine are intensity and complexity, with a beautifully lifted nose of lemongrass, passionfruit, lemon sherbet and green herb aromas. The palate has great concentration, with crisp acidity providing freshness, whilst emphasising the mineral/chalky character and length of the wine. Juicy citrus, zingy lime, passionfruit and fresh cut grass flavours all feature. More subtle notes of melon, mango and mealy barrel fermentation add complexity. | Marlborough | \$44.00 |
| Framingham Fragrant aromatics reminiscent of pink grapefruit, redcurrant, nettle, stonefruit, and dried thyme with some stony, smoky mineral notes adding complexity. A full and complex spectrum of flavours from herbal notes through to ripe tropical fruit salad, with tangy grapefruit, bitter lemon and hints of tomato leaf. Texture has a touch of "chalkiness" and is enriched by the barrel ferment components, which add creaminess too. Acidity is fresh and juicy but by no means tart, and helps to promote a signature dry, stony mineral finish. | Marlborough | \$46.00 |
| Montana Festival Block The wine is pale straw in colour with green highlights. The aromas of grapefruit and white flesh nectarine are complemented by notes of capsicum and tomato leaf. The palate exhibits citrus and stone fruit enhanced with lemon zest highlights. This wine shows a fantastic equilibrium of concentrated fruit flavours, excellent balance and a mineral finish | Marlborough | \$38.00 |
| Stoneleigh Attractive sweet fruit flavours balanced by tangy acidity. Passion fruit, tree fruits and gooseberry. | Marlborough | \$45.00 |

White Wines

| Chardonnay | Region | 750ml |
|--|--------------------|----------------|
| Greenhough On the nose are nectarine and ripe citrus with a suggestion of fennel spice and cashew nut contributed by oak and lees contact. The palate is sweet, rich, with a creaminess reminiscent of tangy lemon meringue pie with a lightly toasted, savoury layer of flavours. While intended to be a fresher, lighter Chardonnay style, handling in seasoned oak has contributed texture and depth to the palate and a subtle layer of complexity beyond pure fruit characters. Malolactic fermentation has contributed softness to the mid-palate. A sweet acidity provides a long juicy finish. | Nelson | \$45.00 |
| Tasman Bay A rich, big wine that has ripe fruit flavours of citrus, pineapple and green apples. A touch of creaminess and vanilla. | Nelson | \$44.00 |
| Lawson's Dry Hills Nectarine and fig aromas combine with concentrated citrus flavours and bright acidity to produce an elegant wine with great length. Low yields and cool fermentation has produced a wine with distinctive mineral notes and subtle yeast autolysis characters. | Marlborough | \$48.00 |
| Oyster Bay Fresh and appealingly tangy wine with white peach and melon flavours supported by spicy oak. Attractive and varietal wine though a tad simple. | Marlborough | \$49.50 |
| Montana Festival Block Light straw in colour, this wine shows definite peach notes perfectly marrying with apricot and pineapple aromas and a hint of toffee apple character. The initial stone fruit and tropical fruit flavours lead into a fleshy, warm and broad mid palate. The acidity is clean and fresh, supporting the flavours. This wine finishes elegantly, leaving a delicious aftertaste of apricots. | Gisborne | \$38.00 |
| Church Road Cuve A core of ripe peach, citrus and hazelnut is overlaid with a mealy complexity from yeast lees contact and subtle, nutty oak. The palate is rich and full, but fine textured with good length. | Hawke's Bay | \$54.00 |

White Wines

Riesling, Pinot Gris & Gewürztraminer

Region

750ml

Camshorn Classic Riesling

The wine is pale straw in colour, with aromas of nectarine, spice and honeysuckle notes. On the palate the wine offers spicy peach, with overt apple strudel and honey flavours.

Waipara

\$48.50

Framingham Riesling

Medium Riesling with appealing purity, an ethereal texture and a balance of sweetness and acidity where neither dominates. Rose petal, lime zest and slate-like mineral flavours. Good cellaring potential.

Marlborough

\$48.00

Blackenbrook Pinot Gris

A charming spread of pear, quince and spice flavours combined with an excellent mouth feel, delicacy and harmony.

Nelson

\$49.50

Stoneleigh Pinot Gris

This Stoneleigh Pinot Gris is showing lovely fruit weight and loads of tropical fruit blended with poached pears and melons. It has a beautifully lifted floral nose that flows through to the palate. With a great texture, good weight on the palate and a rich, oily finish - this is a fantastic aperitif-style drink to be enjoyed with good company.

Marlborough

\$46.50

Lawson's Gewürztraminer

Is a wonderful expression of a great vintage. The wine is luscious and round with gentle acidity, balanced by a hint of sweetness. Lemon peel, marmalade, candyfloss, coriander, ginger and floral notes can all be found on the nose. The palate is mouthfilling and rich with lovely concentration. Lychee, lemon and Turkish delight flavours lead on to a long spicy finish. As the wine develops it will become more expressive on the nose and increasingly complex.

Marlborough

\$46.50

Red Wines

Cabernet Sauvignon & Blends

| | Region | 750ml |
|---|--------------------|----------------|
| Church Road Merlot Cabernet A complex array of rich black fruits with subtle spice, sandalwood and violet aromas are complemented by earthy, savoury undertones derived from barrel maturation and a traditional, old-world approach to winemaking. On the palate the wine is rich, yet dry and elegant with a backbone of fine ripe tannins. | Hawke's Bay | \$51.00 |
| Montana Festival Block Merlot, Cab. Sauv. Intense, dark fruit characters combine with subtle cedar and spicy, oak complexity. The palate is ripe and full with fine tannins culminating in a smooth, lingering finish. | Marlborough | \$38.00 |
| Church Road Cuve Cabernet Sauvignon Rich black fruits, subtle spice, sandalwood and violet aromas are complemented by earthy, savoury undertones derived from barrel maturation and a traditional, Old World approach to winemaking. On the palate the wine is rich yet dry and elegant with a backbone of fine ripe tannins. | Hawke's Bay | \$54.00 |

Merlot, Shiraz & Syrah

| | Region | 750ml |
|--|------------------------|----------------|
| Waimea Estate Merlot Malbec Inky deep in colour this 70/30 twist on a Bordeaux blend has a nose packed with aromas of the blackest plums and the purplest violets, with just a hint of fennel and cedar. The Merlot provides suppleness and softness, while the Malbec provides some more body to the wine by way of tannin (and also intense colour!). This complexity follows through to the palate which oozes juice of those plums smelled in the bouquet, and has an underlying earthiness which ends with a long succulent finish. | Nelson | \$43.00 |
| Wyndham Estate, George Wyndham Shiraz Deep ruby red with bright purple hues. Rich dark berry fruit with hints of mint and licorice complimented with cedary oak nuances. Ripe plum and dark cherry fruit flavours with choc mint. This wine has a rich full mid palate supported by fine velvety tannins and integrated oak characters. | South Australia | \$47.50 |
| Brancott Estate Reserve Merlot Vibrant ruby red in colour, the wine shows crushed dark berry and savoury notes. The palate is intense with berry fruit flavours combined with cedar and spicy oak complexity. Fine tannins support the ripe fruit and provide a smooth, lingering finish. | Hawke's Bay | \$52.00 |
| Church Road Cuve Merlot This wine is fragrant and appealing with rich dark berry and plum fruit, fragrant violet notes and a touch of spice complemented by subtle savoury oak complexity. On the palate the wine is rich and full, yet dry with a backbone of fine ripe tannins. A sensuous and ripe Hawke's Bay Merlot. | Hawke's Bay | \$54.00 |

Red Wines

| | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------|
| Pinot Noir | Region | 750ml |
| Waimea Dark berry fruit, plum, cherry, and spice aromas greet the nose. On the palate the fruit characters combine with this spice and some savouriness. Good acid levels combined with subtle oak and fine fruit tannins give this wine an appealing structure and length. | Nelson | \$46.00 |
| Blackenbrook This is a soft and charming Pinot Noir with seductive scents of wild black cherries and spice, a silken texture and a harmonious, lasting finish. | Nelson | \$56.00 |
| Babich The bouquet is lifted with the aroma of strawberries and raspberries mingled with spice. The supple palate is of medium weight and has a sweet red fruited entry with spice showing its hand again. Earthy notes add a touch of complexity to the mid palate and fine coating tannins dust the finish. | Marlborough | \$44.00 |
| Framingham Bouquet is generous with red cherry, cranberry and summer fruit compote notes. Some attractive savoury, "smoky bacon" complexity with hints of spice. Palate is concentrated and fleshy with fine, silky tannins that are immediately approachable. Rich, savoury meat and game flavours over red cherry, raspberry and cranberry fruit, contrasting nicely with supporting cherry oak. Hints of smoke, mushroom and mineral provide some complexity. Fine acid balance promotes a long juicy, finish. | Marlborough | \$58.50 |
| Church Road Aromas and flavours of bright, perfumed fruit abound with a core of generous ripe cherry flavours and hints of oak spice. On the palate, the wine is fleshy and supple with silky tannins providing an enjoyable and lingering finish. | Central Otago | \$52.50 |
| Prophet's Rock, Rocky Point Pretty wine with lifted floral, red cherry and spice flavours. It has an appealing perfumed character. Supple, lithe Pinot Noir - very attractive. | Central Otago | \$52.00 |
| Mount Difficulty Roaring Meg Fruit driven, mix of berry fruits, liquorice and fine well balanced spiciness from oak. | Central Otago | \$57.00 |
| Montana Festival Block This wine is a beautiful deep garnet colour and has an abundance of earthy plum, black cherry and liquorice aromas complemented by integrated savoury spice and dried herb notes. The palate is rich and fleshy with ripe dark fruit finishing with velvety tannins. | Waipara | \$42.00 |

Dessert Wines & Digestives

| Vineyard & Grape variety | Region | 375ml Btl. |
|---|-------------|------------|
| Waimea SV Noble Riesling Very concentrated wine with a lot of botrytis influence and some nice developed Riesling flavours. Concentrated, long and a suggestion of green fruit character. | Nelson | \$52.00 |
| Montana Late Harvest Riesling Light, moderately sweet wine with restrained fruit that shows a slight musk/musty character and clear botrytis influence. | Marlborough | \$38.50 |

| Ports & Sherry | Btl. | Gls. |
|-----------------------------|----------|---------|
| Sandeman 10 yrs. Tawny Port | \$110.00 | \$8.50 |
| Sandeman 20 yrs. Tawny Port | \$155.00 | \$11.00 |
| Pykes Ruby Port | \$70.00 | \$7.00 |
| Pykes Fine Tawny | \$70.00 | \$7.00 |
| Sherry Fino | \$70.00 | \$7.00 |
| Sherry Medium | \$70.00 | \$7.00 |
| Sherry Cream | \$70.00 | \$7.00 |

| Cognac | Region | Gls. |
|---------------------|----------------|---------|
| Remy Martin V.S. | Cognac, France | \$9.50 |
| Remy Martin V.S.O.P | Cognac, France | \$12.50 |
| Hennessey V.S. | Cognac, France | \$9.50 |
| Hennessey V.S.O.P. | Cognac, France | \$12.50 |
| Hennessey X.O. | Cognac, France | \$28.50 |
| Martell V.S. | Cognac, France | \$11.00 |
| Martell V.S.O.P. | Cognac, France | \$15.00 |

Wine info: “The Grape Varieties White”



Sauvignon blanc is a green-skinned grape variety which originates from the Bordeaux region of France. The grape gets its name from the French word *sauvage* (“wild”) and *blanc* (“white”) due to its early origins as an indigenous grape in South West France. It is now planted in many of the world’s wine regions, producing a crisp, dry, and refreshing white varietal wine. Conversely, the grape is also a component of the famous dessert wines from Sauternes and Barsac. Sauvignon blanc is widely cultivated in France, Chile, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Brazil and California.



Chardonnay is a green-skinned grape variety used to make white wine. It is believed to have originated in the Burgundy wine region of eastern France but is now grown wherever wine is produced, from England to New Zealand. For new and developing wine regions, growing Chardonnay is seen as a “rite of passage” and an easy segue into the international wine market.



Riesling is a white grape variety which originates in the Rhine region of Germany. Riesling is an aromatic grape variety displaying flowery, almost perfumed, aromas as well as high acidity. It is used to make dry, semi-sweet, sweet and sparkling white wines.



Pinot Gris is a white wine grape variety of the species *Vitis vinifera*. Thought to be a mutant clone of the Pinot noir grape, it normally has a grayish-blue fruit, accounting for its name (“*gris*” meaning “grey” in French) but the grape can have a brownish pink to black and even white appearance. The word “Pinot”, which means “pinecone” in French, could have been given to it because the grapes grow in small pinecone-shaped clusters. The clone of Pinot Gris grown in Italy is known as Pinot Grigio.



Gewürztraminer is an aromatic wine grape variety that performs best in cooler climates. It is sometimes referred to colloquially as Gewürz, and in French it is written Gewurztraminer. The variety has high natural sugar and the wines are white and usually off-dry, with a flamboyant bouquet of lychees. Indeed, Gewürztraminer and lychees share the same aroma compounds.

Wine info: "The Grape Varieties Red"



Cabernet Sauvignon is one of the world's most widely recognized red wine grape varieties. It is grown in nearly every major wine producing country among a diverse spectrum of climates from Canada's Okanagan Valley to Lebanon's Beqaa Valley. Cabernet Sauvignon became internationally recognized through its prominence in Bordeaux wines where it is often blended with Merlot and Cabernet Franc. From France, the grape spread across Europe and to the New World where it found new homes in places like California's Napa Valley, Australia's Coonawarra region and Chile's Maipo Valley. For most of the 20th century, it was the world's most widely planted premium red wine grape until it was surpassed by Merlot in the 1990s.



Merlot is a red wine grape that is used as both a blending grape and for varietal wines. The name Merlot is thought to derive from the Old French word for young blackbird, merlot, a diminutive of merle, the blackbird (*Turdus merula*), probably from the colour of the grape. Merlot-based wines usually have medium body with hints of berry, plum, and currant. Its softness and "fleshiness", combined with its earlier ripening, makes Merlot a popular grape for blending with the sterner, later-ripening Cabernet Sauvignon, which tends to be higher in tannin.



Syrah or **Shiraz** is a dark-skinned grape grown throughout the world and used primarily to produce powerful red wines. Whether sold as Syrah or Shiraz, these wines enjoy great popularity. Syrah is used as a varietal and is also blended. Following several years of strong planting, Syrah was estimated in 2004 to be the world's 7th most grown grape at 142,600 hectares (352,000 acres).



Pinot Noir is a red wine grape variety of the species *Vitis vinifera*. The name may also refer to wines produced predominantly from Pinot noir grapes. The name is derived from the French words for "pine" and "black" alluding to the varietals' tightly clustered dark purple pine cone-shaped bunches of fruit. Pinot noir grapes are grown around the world, mostly in the cooler regions, but the grape is chiefly associated with the Burgundy region of France. It is widely considered to produce some of the finest wines in the world, but is a difficult variety to cultivate and transform into wine.



Sémillon is a golden-skinned grape used to make dry and sweet white wines, most notably in France and Australia.

Wine info: “Good to know”

Wine History

A 2003 report by archaeologists indicates a possibility that grapes were used together with rice to produce mixed fermented beverages in China in the early years of 7000 BC. Pottery jars from the Neolithic site of Jiahu, Henan were found to contain traces of tartaric acid and other organic compounds commonly found in wine. However, other fruits indigenous to the region, such as hawthorn, could not be ruled out. If these beverages, which seem to be the precursors of rice wine, included grapes rather than other fruits, these grapes were of any of the several dozen indigenous wild species of grape in China, rather than from *Vitis vinifera*, which were introduced into China some 6000 years later. The oldest known evidence of wine production in Europe is dated to 4500 BC and comes from archaeological sites in Greece. The same sites also contain the world's earliest evidence of crushed grapes. Literary references to wine are abundant in Homer (9th century BC, but possibly composed even earlier), Alkman (7th century BC), and others. In Ancient Egypt, six of 36 wine amphoras were found in the tomb of King Tutankhamun bearing the name “Kha'y”, a royal chief vintner. Five of these amphoras were designated as from the King's personal estate with the sixth listed as from the estate of the royal house of Aten. Traces of wine have also been found in central Asian Xinjiang, dating from the second and first millennia BC. In medieval Europe, the Roman Catholic Church was a staunch supporter of wine since it was necessary for the celebration of Mass. Monks in France made wine for years, storing it underground in caves to age. There is an old English recipe which survived in various forms until the nineteenth century for refining white wine using Bastard—bad or tainted *bastardo* wine. Wine was forbidden during the Islamic Golden Age, until Jābir ibn Hayyān and other Muslim chemists pioneered its distillation for cosmetic and medical uses.

Did you know?

Champagne is a sparkling wine produced by inducing the in-bottle secondary fermentation of the wine to effect carbonation. It is produced exclusively within the Champagne region of France, from which it takes its name. The primary grapes used in the production of Champagne are Chardonnay, Pinot noir and Pinot Meunier. Through international treaty, national law or quality-control/consumer protection related local regulations; most countries limit the use of the term to only those wines that come from the Champagne appellation. In Europe, this principle is enshrined in the European Union by Protected Designation of Origin (PDO) status.

Dom Pierre Pérignon (c. 1638–14 September 1715) was a Benedictine monk who made important contributions to the production and quality of Champagne wine in an era when the region's wines were predominantly still and red. Popular myths frequently, but erroneously, credit him with the invention of sparkling Champagne, which didn't become the dominant style of Champagne until mid-19th century. The famous champagne Dom Pérignon, the prestige cuvée of Moët & Chandon, is named after him. In his era the in-bottle re-fermentation that gives sparkling wine its sparkle was an enormous problem for winemakers. When the weather cooled off in the autumn, re-fermentation would sometimes keep fermentable sugars from being converted to alcohol. If the wine was bottled in this state, it became a literal time bomb. When the weather warmed in the spring, dormant yeast roused themselves and began generating carbon dioxide that would at best push the cork out of the bottle, and at worst explode, starting a chain reaction. Nearby bottles, also under pressure, would break from the shock of the first breakage, and so on, which was a hazard to employees and to that year's production. Dom Pérignon thus tried to avoid re-fermentation. In 1718, Canon Godinot published a set of wine making rules that were said to be established by Dom Pérignon. Among these rules was the detail that fine wine should only be made from Pinot Noir. Pérignon was not fond of white grapes because of their tendency to enter re-fermentation. Other rules that Godinot included was Pérignon's guidance to aggressively prune vines so that they grow no higher than three feet and produce a smaller crop. Harvest should be done in cool, damp conditions (such as early morning) with every precaution being taken to ensure that the grapes don't bruise or break. Rotten and overly large grapes were to be thrown out. Pérignon did not allow grapes to be trodden and favored the use of multiple presses to help minimize macerations of the juice and the skins. Dom Pérignon was also an early advocate of winemaking using only natural process without the addition of foreign substances. Today we might call this "organic" winemaking to distinguish it from other commonly used winemaking methods, though the word "organic" connotes modern cultural and political views, in addition to techniques for sustainable agriculture, that Dom Pérignon most likely did not hold.

"Noble" wines

Noble rot is the benevolent form of a grey fungus, *Botrytis cinerea*, affecting wine grapes. Infestation by *Botrytis* requires moist conditions, and if the weather stays wet, the malevolent form, "grey rot", can destroy crops of grapes. Grapes typically become infected with *Botrytis* when they are ripe, but when then exposed to drier conditions become partially raisined and the form of infection brought about by the partial drying process is known as noble rot. Grapes when picked at a certain point during infestation can produce particularly fine and concentrated sweet wine. Some of the finest *Botrytized* wines are literally picked berry by berry in successive tries.