



## Spinyback 2008 Riesling

### Harvest

The 2007/8 growing season was notable for its extremes. Spring was warm but the vineyards did get a nip of frost - most unusual for us here on the plains. Luckily none of our vineyards were hit too seriously, and the weather around flowering time was excellent ensuring good fruit-set, which offset any frost damage. Summer brought drought conditions, leading to our second-earliest vintage start - on March 17. From the very end of March a series of three rains complicated harvest for some, but by this stage 90% of Waimea Estates' crop was safely in the winery.

The grapes for this Riesling were estate -grown on the Waimea Plains, which have free-draining alluvial soils. They were harvested in late April with an average sugar level of 23° Brix.

### Winemaking

Once at the winery our Riesling grapes are gently pressed without skin contact to minimise phenolic pickup. The juice is treated reductively to preserve aromatic fruit characters. After cold settling the clean (low grape solids) juice is inoculated with a yeast chosen for its aroma-liberating potential. Ferments are slow and cool, to maintain the integrity of the variety.

This wine is the marriage of several components chosen for their individual contributions to the final blend. It incorporates a lighter 'racy' component, another with more extract to impart body to the wine, and a third chosen for its quintessential Riesling aromatics.

This wine has been lightly fined for stability and 'roundness' and then cross-flow filtered prior to bottling in mid-January 2009.

### Technical data

Alcohol:	13%
Residual sugar:	13.7 g/L
pH:	3.10
Titrateable acidity:	10.35 g/L

### Tasting notes

Sweet floral aromas of jasmine and honeysuckle greet the nose, with a background of mandarin and candied apple. Some residual sweetness makes this wine very more-ish; this sweet entry is balanced by a bright acidity and retained 'spritzig', which give the wine crispness and 'liveliness'. It has great length and is at once mouth-filling and refreshing.