

## 23 May 2018

## Foley Family Wines Announces Harvest Result & Decanter World Wine Award

## 2018 Harvest Result

Foley Family Wines announces that the company has completed its harvest for the 2018 vintage. The harvest totalled 5,868 tonnes across the Marlborough and Martinborough wineries, an overall increase of 6% on last year's harvest of 5,527 tonnes. Pleasingly, both Marlborough and Martinborough FFW vineyards performed strongly with a 7% and 20% increase in tonnage respectively against last year's harvest.

Chief Group Winemaker | Head of Viticulture Alastair Maling MW said "The 2018 vintage was well set up with ideal growing conditions throughout the summer – good flowering and hot summer temperatures indicated an early harvest which came to fruition as we experienced our earliest harvest for a number of years even with a number of rain events during January, February and March. With the continued investment and focus in the vineyards both on yield and aligning vineyards to wine styles is providing a positive effect on our wines given the strong list of awards our brands have received in the last 12 months. What is particularly exciting from my perspective is that early indications from the 2018 vintage suggest that the wine quality is stronger than 2017".

## Vavasour named best Sauvignon Blanc in the world

Vavasour Sauvignon Blanc 2017 has been named Best in Show by Decanter Magazine's World Wine Awards 2018. Announced May 22nd in London, the Decanter World Wine Awards (DWWA) is the world's largest and most prestigious wine competition, judged by top wine experts from around the world. The DWWA is respected internationally as an unrivalled source of wine recommendations.

"To be awarded Best in Show by Decanter is an incredible accolade for the whole team", says Vavasour's Chief Winemaker, Stu Marfell. "It is such a great show as the judges are tasting amazing wines not just from New Zealand but from around the world, so it puts our wines into an international context. Vavasour Sauvignon Blanc is a great example of the quality of fruit that the Awatere Valley produces, and it's great that the judges have recognised this."

Also this month, Vavasour Sauvignon Blanc was officially recognised as a Fine Wine of New Zealand. It is the third consecutive year the wine has been included in this definitive list of New Zealand's best wines and wineries, showcasing provenance, consistency, excellence in winemaking, and demonstrated evolution of fine wine production.

Mark Turnbull CEO of Foley Family Wines said "It's been a great week for trophies around the world for Chairman Bill Foley. Besides having the best Sauvignon Blanc in the world, his NHL team, the Vegas Golden Knights just won the Western Conference Final of Stanley Cup and is through to the Stanley Cup Final. Bill and his team just made history being the first team ever to make the final in their first season".

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