



2024 Vintage Overview

The Season

Vintage 2024 could be called 'The Vintage of Redemption.' After the horrors of Cyclone Gabrielle in 2023, which destroyed so much of our beautiful region, including 85% of our grape crop, vintage 2024 was sublime! Our Growing Degree Days in Hawke's Bay were well above average, with an El Niño summer kicking into play in December 2023. Rainfall arrived pre-Christmas, then we enjoyed a very dry and warm summer & autumn period, allowing perfect conditions for ripening and flavour development of our grapes. Despite the heat of autumnal days, evenings were cool, allowing excellent retention of natural acidity. Yields, however, were very low after poor flowering in early spring (the tail of La Niña had a final sting), resulting in a small crop that easily ripened to full maturity with an abundance of flavour, but unfortunately produced financially challenging low returns for our grape growers.

The Vineyards

Skeetfield – After losing the entire crop to flood waters last year, we were very relieved to get a spectacular harvest from Denis & Sally Gunn's Skeetfield Vineyard, albeit only a very low yield sadly. The wine in barrel has incredible concentration and power, with sublime balance and intensity. This will be a spectacularly great vintage for Skeetfield!

Two Terraces – Ian & Linda Quinn's tireless efforts amongst the vines paid off with a sensational hand-harvest of our 3 chardonnay clones: Mendoza, 548, and our first pick of the new Calera. We have beautiful wines in barrel and Cuve's, with fabulous balance and intensity. This will give us great options for Single Vineyard wines and fantastic blending options for Heartwood and Golden Egg.

Kōkako Farms – Bruce Nimon and his team really delivered this season, after a punishing experience last year with the cyclone. Resilience is a very necessary character in viticulture, and the way this team worked this season was incredible. We hand-picked amazing chardonnay from Mendoza clone, clone 15 and clone 548 vines in perfect fruit condition. Super exciting to be working with these wines now in our beautiful barrel room!



Tony Bish Wines



Genevieve & Oscar Bish along with our 2024 vintage interns Lea and Alexis from France.