



WAIRAU RIVER

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MEDIA RELEASE

Wairau River Pinot Gris 2009 wins the Trophy for 'Best Wine with Dim Sum' at the Hong Kong International Wine and Spirit Competition

Wairau River Wines have been identified as among the top producers for the Asian palate, winning the '**Best Wine with Dim Sum**' trophy for its Pinot Gris 2009 at the inaugural Cathay Pacific Hong Kong International Wine & Spirit Competition. This was backed by winning a gold medal for the 2009 Wairau River Sauvignon Blanc in the Food and Wine category.

Around 1300 wines from around the world were judged by a pan-Asian panel of wine professionals from China, Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan, Singapore, Japan, Thailand and India from 31 October to 3 November, producing a uniquely Asian set of results. Only one trophy per category was awarded, making the Wairau River Pinot Gris 2009 the best in its class.

Simon Tam, director and judge of the Cathay Pacific Hong Kong IWSC, said "Because of our unique panel of pan-Asian judges, the Cathay Pacific Hong Kong IWSC produced a unique set of results and one that should capture the attention of all sectors of the international wine industry to assist in better understanding the Asian palate."

Wairau River's winemaker Sam Rose said "a true representation of a wine is its ability to be paired with food, so to have received two outstanding results in this category is just fantastic. The entire winemaking team is thrilled to have been rewarded for their efforts from the 2009 vintage."

Wairau River Wines is a dynamic family owned company with well established international markets for their premium wines. The Rose family are pioneers in Marlborough having planted their first vineyards in 1978 which now total over 200 hectares. All wine is 100% estate grown and bottled, with the winery being certified as carbon neutral in 2008.

The Cathay Pacific Hong Kong IWSC is supported by Cathay Pacific, South China Morning Post, The Upper House, Riedel, Crown Wine Cellars and Sea Prince Lonimar Australia. Judging and results were monitored by KPMG.

More information about the Cathay Pacific Hong Kong IWSC is available at www.asiasbestwinesandspirits.com. For more information about Wairau River Wines visit www.wairauriverwines.com.

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