

STONECROFT



Gimblett Gravels Ruhanui Merlot/ Cab Sauv 2020

This is our blended red wine. Originally, this wine was the first to be made with fruit from the Mere Road and Roy's Hill vineyards. Before 1876, the Ngaruroro River took a bend around Roy's Hill through what is now our Roy's Hill Vineyard. In 1876 the Ngaruroro flooded and broke through an old channel called the Ruhanui, forming the present river. Our Mere Road vineyard is on the river terrace of the present Ngaruroro, so the name *Ruhanui* was seen as link between the two vineyards. The wine is now made with fruit from our Roy's Hill Vineyard.

Vintage: 2020 was a superb vintage and although 2019 was excellent, this vintage was even better and definitely the best vintage we've had at Stonecroft since we arrived in 2010. Flowering was good, and we were not affected by any frosts. Spring and early summer were warm and throughout the summer Hawke's Bay experienced warm settled weather with hot, dry conditions.

Wine:

Colour: A medium ruby red colour.

Aromatics:

The wine has a combination of red and black fruit notes (plum, redcurrant and blackcurrant).

Palate:

This year our Ruhanui has lush red and black fruit flavours including plum, blackberry and blackcurrant. The tannins are soft and smooth and the wine has a long toasty finish with hints of sweet spice. **Suitable for vegans.**



Technical Info:

Region:	Gimblett Gravels Wine Growing District®, Hawke's Bay.
Vineyard:	Roy's Hill.
Variety:	50% Merlot and 50% Cabernet Sauvignon
Harvest:	Hand harvested 26 th March 2020 (Merlot) and 6 th April 2020 (Cabernet Sauvignon).
Vinification:	Fermented in open-top stainless steel fermenters. Hand plunged two times daily. Post fermentation soak for two to three weeks followed by maturation in barrel.
Maturation:	Matured in seasoned French oak barrels for over 18 months.
Bottled:	26 th January 2022.
Analysis:	Alc 13% vol.
Closure:	Screwcap
Production:	120 cases.
Cellaring Potential:	7-10 years.



