



# CRU

HERETAUNGA ALBARIÑO 2023

## Season Summary

Hawke's Bay had an incredibly unique season with regard to climate, spurred by a La Niña weather pattern persisting for its third year, bringing significant precipitation, and mild overnight temperatures. A lull in rainfall over flowering was a welcome blessing. A cooler, wet interim resulted in a long hang-time on the vines, with harvest dates being later than those of the recent past. Once again, the natural disease resistance of this grape variety was helpful.

## Viticulture

A combination of premium Albariño parcels from the Fratelli Vineyard in Bridge Pa with high pH loam over red metal gravel with some limestone influence and the Two Terraces vineyard in Mangatahi with stony silt loam over red metal alluvial gravels. High-quality Galicia-sourced clone, along with Plansel 635 from Portugal. The higher elevation of the Mangatahi vineyard and its dramatic diurnal shifts allowed for the parcel from this vineyard to retain a distinct acidic seam. Crop levels are kept low to keep the vines in balance, and irrigation is minimised to allow natural terroir to show through. Both vineyards are managed to SWNZ standards with a nil residue spray programme.

Harvested 14th and 18th April 2023.

## Winemaking

100% hand-harvested and whole-bunch pressed to tank (58%) and barrel (42%), predominantly old French oak barriques with 17% being indigenous and 33% malolactic fermentation. 9 months in barrel on lees before being blended to tank in December 2023 followed by an additional month on full lees. The wine was gently racked and filtered prior to bottling in January 2024.

## Tasting Note

Straw coloured with refreshing lime citrus peel, ripe peach, and mandarin characters. Flavours of honeysuckle and stonefruit mingle with a subtle saltiness that provides a savoury taste to the wine. Rich and full bodied yet fresh with mouthwatering crisp salivating acidity giving great balance, length and structure.

## Chemical Analysis

Alcohol: 13%

TA: 8.3 g/L

PH: 3.31

Suitable for Vegetarian/Vegan: Yes



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