

Čuvar Iris Collection

Hawke's Bay Merlot Cabernet Franc 2022



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VINTAGE

2022 was a complicated vintage that saw our winemakers and viticulturists work closely with each other, drawing on their collective expertise. Watching the weather forecasts continuously throughout the day to ensure picking scheduling was exact, maximising the sun for as long as possible.

VINEYARD

Cornerstone 100%

Cornerstone vineyard is planted in the famous Gimblett Gravels appellation. The canopy was kept open to ensure airflow around the bunches which kept them clean and open to sunlight. This meant that the fruit was picked at the exact time we needed to make the wine, rather than be dictated by the weather.

TECH NOTES

PH : 3.78	TA : 5.1 gl	ALC : 13.8%	Residual Sugar : 0
Standard Drinks : 8.2	Varieties : Merlot 81%, Cabernet Franc 13%, Malbec 3%, Cab Sav 3%		
Bottled: June 2023	Egg whites used in the age old traditional way		

WINEMAKERS COMMENTS

The Merlot sets up the palate's ripeness and structure while the Cabernet Franc compliments with sweet dried basil notes.

WINEMAKING

FRUIT HANDLING:

The varieties were hand-picked, de-stemmed into vessels and fermented separately. Gentle pump overs at varying times during the fermentation cycle extracted the ripe firm tannins. Natural yeast was used on 30% of the wine with added yeast on the remainder. Once the fermentation had completed the wines were pressed off to French barriques for a 10-month duration where they underwent natural malolactic fermentation.

FERMENTATION VESSEL:

Fermented in stainless steel and matured in 100% French oak barriques.

Red currant & raspberries

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