

*Babich*

NEW ZEALAND WINE

## Babich Irongate Cabernet Merlot Franc 2013

We have been producing Irongate Cabernet Merlot since 1986 and it has evolved into this richly flavoured, balanced and elegant wine. The vines from this now-famous Gimblett Gravels 'Irongate' vineyard are selected at pruning and crop levels are closely monitored to ensure excellent flavour concentration in the grapes.

**Grapes:**

43% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc

**Region:**

Hawke's Bay - Gimblett Gravels

**Recommended Food:**

This wine is a brilliant match for red meats, game and pasta dishes. A perfect partner for casseroled lamb shanks or with Scotch fillet, roasted rare.

**Recommended Cellaring:**

4-10 years

**Production Notes:**

Extensive crop thinning in the vineyard produced select parcels of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Cabernet Franc. These grapes were hand picked, individually fermented and hand plunged in open vats before spending an extended time on skins post ferment to aid structural development. The wines were put into new (35%) and seasoned French oak and assessed for quality after several months. After 7 months the wine was blended then returned to oak for a further 7 months.

**Technical Notes:**

Alcohol: 13.5%

TA: 6.6g/l

pH: 3.56

Residual Sugar: Dry

**Tasting Notes:**

Savoury and spicy, good complexity, with ripe blackcurrant and plum flavours. Good tannin support.

**Awards:**

5 STARS - *Raymond Chan*, [www.raymondchanwinereviews.co.nz](http://www.raymondchanwinereviews.co.nz), Sept 2014

5 STARS - *Sam Kim*, *Wine Orbit*, [www.wineorbit.co.nz](http://www.wineorbit.co.nz), Jan 2015

5 STARS - *Cameron Douglas MS*, *NZ Liquor News/FMCG Business magazine*, Feb 2015

*Excellence Through Experience*[www.babichwines.co.nz](http://www.babichwines.co.nz)

SINCE 1916



THREE GENERATIONS



OF FINE WINEMAKING

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