



# BABICH

NEW ZEALAND WINE  
SINCE 1916

BLACK LABEL:

## Hawke's Bay Merlot 2018



This stylish Merlot is produced from a special selection of grapes grown in the stony soils of our Irongate vineyard in the Gimblett Gravels region of Hawke's Bay. It displays an attractive wealth of berry fruit and plum aromas, balanced by full-flavoured, soft tannin finish.

### INFORMATION

<b>Grape Varieties</b>	86% Merlot 14% Malbec
<b>Region</b>	Hawke's Bay
<b>Sub region</b>	Gimblett Gravels
<b>Vineyard/s</b>	Gimblett Road
<b>Harvest method</b>	Machine
<b>Harvest dates</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> April
<b>Harvest Analysis</b>	22.6°Brix; pH 3.45; TA 5.0 g/L & Omaha Rd: 22.0°Brix; pH 3.45; TA 4.8 g/L
<b>Processing</b>	Crushed. Pre-ferment skin soak
<b>Fermentation vessel</b>	Stainless steel vats
<b>Fermentation</b>	Irongate Merlot - 36 days skin contact. Omaha Rd Merlot - 23 days skin contact.
<b>Malolactic</b>	Yes
<b>Maturation</b>	11 months in French oak - 25% new..
<b>Fining</b>	Skim Milk
<b>Filtration</b>	Yes



EXCELLENCE *through* EXPERIENCE





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## TECHNICAL NOTES

Alcohol	13.5%
TA	5.7 g/L
pH	3.60
Residual sugar	Dry

## WINEMAKER NOTES

### Nose

Dark and enticing. Plum, violet and liquorice with notes of blackberry and vanilla.

### Palate

Smooth, dense and darkly sweet entry with Black Doris plum and complex notes of cinnamon, mocha and cedar joining on the mid palate. Plummy notes persist on the finish along with elusive smoky notes. Rich and opulent.

### Recommended food

An ideal partner for ratatouille, or equally as good with Italian-style meatballs in a garlicky tomato sauce.



EXCELLENCE *through* EXPERIENCE

