



# BABICH

NEW ZEALAND WINE  
SINCE 1916

IRONGATE:

## Hawke's Bay Cabernet Merlot Franc 2017

Our flagship Irongate Vineyard is situated in an old shingle bed of the Ngaruroro River in the Gimblett Gravels appellation of Hawke's Bay. First produced in 1987, this single vineyard wine has evolved to represent the very best of our craft. Crop-levels are heavily restricted to deliver excellent flavour concentration in the grapes, with the final blend delivering a rich, round and complex wine.



### INFORMATION

<b>Grape Varieties</b>	45% Cabernet Sauvignon; 37% Merlot; 18% Cabernet Franc.
<b>Region</b>	Hawke's Bay
<b>Sub-Region</b>	Gimblett Gravels
<b>Vineyard</b>	Irongate
<b>Harvest method</b>	Machine, de-stemmed at harvest
<b>Harvest Dates</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> Mar – 12 <sup>th</sup> Apr
<b>Processing</b>	Crushed to ferment tank
<b>Fermentation vessel</b>	Open top vats
<b>Fermentation</b>	Temperature peaking at 33C with gentle hand plunging of cap. Yeast: <i>Torulaspora delbrueckii</i> in combination with <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> . An average of 13 days on skins.
<b>Malolactic</b>	Yes
<b>Maturation</b>	15 months in French barrels
<b>Fining</b>	Isinglass
<b>Filtration</b>	Yes



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## TECHNICAL NOTES

Alcohol 13.0%

TA 5.7 g/L

pH 3.60

Residual sugar Dry

## WINEMAKER NOTES

### Nose

Red plums, cassis and boysenberry with a hint of kirsch and vanilla.

### Palate

Entry combines sweet and savoury elements. Red cherries, plum and underlying cedar flavours carry through the palate and linger attractively. Medium weighted and elegant.

### 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 5-8 years

First Vintage 1986

## AWARDS

94 POINTS Cameron Douglas,  
[www.camdouglasms.com](http://www.camdouglasms.com)



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