



# BABICH

LASTING CHARACTER

WINEMAKERS' RESERVE

## 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 Hawke's Bay sub-region, Gimblett Gravels.

Supple and sweet-fruited with savoury complexity, balanced by a full-flavoured, soft tannin finish.



## WINEMAKER NOTES

Ripe and expressive with dark plum, cinnamon, leather and cedar aromas.

Dense and even on entry with plum, blueberry and tobacco, chocolate notes. Vanilla and liquorish linger. Sweet, dark and juicy.

## FOOD RECOMMENDATION

A hearty wine that complements flavoursome casseroles, beef, lamb and other full-bodied dishes.

## AWARDS

### 95 POINTS

Huon Hooke  
[www.therealreview.com](http://www.therealreview.com)

### 4 STARS

Michael Cooper  
[www.michaelcooperwines.com](http://www.michaelcooperwines.com)

## INFORMATION

First Vintage	2001
Grape Variety	Merlot
Region	Hawke's Bay
Clonal Selection	UCD6
Harvest Method	Machine - de-stemmed in field
Harvest Dates	9th April
Harvest Analysis	Various
Processing	Crushed. Pre-ferment skin soak
Fermentation Vessel	Wide stainless steel vats
Fermentation	36 days skin contact
Malolactic	Yes
Maturation	11 months in French oak - 25% new.
Fining	Skim Milk
Filtration	Yes

## TECHNICAL NOTES

Alcohol	13.5%
TA	5.7g/L
pH	3.6
Residual Sugar	Dry