



IRONGATE

Gimblett Gravels 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.



LASTING CHARACTER



WINEMAKER NOTES

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

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

FOOD RECOMMENDATION

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

AWARDS

94 POINTS

Cameron Douglas MS

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INFORMATION

First Vintage	1986
Grape Variety	45% Cabernet Sauvignon; 37% Merlot; 18% Cabernet Franc.
Region	Gimblett Gravels, Hawke's Bay
Clonal Selection	Various
Harvest Method	Machine, de-stemmed at harvest
Harvest Dates	30th March - 3rd April
Harvest Analysis	Various
Processing	Crushed to ferment tank
Fermentation Vessel	Open top vats
Fermentation	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 13days on skins.
Malolactic	Yes
Maturation	15 months in French barrels (225L)
Fining	Isinglass
Filtration	Yes

TECHNICAL NOTES

Alcohol	13.0%
TA	5.7 g/L
pH	3.60
Residual Sugar	Dry