



IRONGATE

Gimblett Gravels Cabernet Merlot Franc 2018

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

Blackberry, blueberry, and plum. Inviting and warm with a touch of spice, charcuterie and well integrated oak.

Smooth and seamless with layers of sweet dark fruits, cocoa, cedar and liquorish. Dense, concentrated and vibrant with a long finish.

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

5 STARS

Michael Cooper
NZ Listener magazine

94 POINTS

Sam Kim
Wine Orbit - www.wineorbit.co.nz

92 POINTS

www.jamessuckling.com



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INFORMATION

First Vintage	1986
Grape Variety	43% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 17% Cabernet Franc
Region	Gimblett Gravels, Hawke's Bay
Clonal Selection	Various
Harvest Method	Machine, de-stemmed at harvest
Harvest Dates	28th March - 26th April
Harvest Analysis	Various
Processing	Crushed to ferment tank
Fermentation Vessel	Open top vats
Fermentation	Low rate yeast additions. Temperature peaking at 33C with gentle hand plunging of cap. An average of 35days on skins.
Malolactic	Yes
Maturation	15 months in French barrels (225L)
Fining	Gelatine
Filtration	minimal: 5µm

TECHNICAL NOTES

Alcohol	13.5%
TA	5.6 g/L
pH	3.76
Residual Sugar	Dry