



WINEMAKERS' RESERVE

# Hawke's Bay Merlot

2020

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.



LASTING CHARACTER



## WINEMAKER NOTES

Plums, blueberry and forest berries with vanilla and violet notes, spicy leather.

Finely focused entry with dark fruits, liquorish and cinnamon. Elements of Christmas cake also detected.

Warm, fleshy and dense. Sweetly brooding on the finish.

## FOOD RECOMMENDATION

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

## AWARDS

5 STARS

Gimblett Gravel Annual Vintage Selection 2020



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## INFORMATION

First Vintage	2001
Grape Variety	Merlot
Region	Gimblett Gravels, Hawke's Bay
Clonal Selection	2096 & UCD6
Harvest Method	Machine - de-stemmed in field
Harvest Dates	27th - 29th March
Harvest Analysis	Various
Processing	Crushed
Fermentation Vessel	Wide stainless steel vats
Fermentation	Fermented with Lachancea thermotolerans followed by Saccharomyces cerevisiae. 20 days skin contact.
Malolactic	Yes
Maturation	10 months in French oak - 25% new.
Fining	Skim Milk
Filtration	Yes

## TECHNICAL NOTES

Alcohol	14.0%
TA	5.8g/L
pH	3.66
Residual Sugar	Dry