

# 2013 Merlot Cabernet Hawkes Bay, New Zealand

## WINE MAKER

Hayden Penney

## WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Hawkes Bay has captured the attention of many with the 2013 vintage, with a long dry summer and minimal rainfall the harvest was spectacular. Our Merlot came out at a pleasing 24.0 brix where it was de-stemmed and put into small open topped fermenters. The wine was gently plunged and pumped over throughout fermentation to aid flavour and colour extraction. After spending sufficient time on skins the wine was pressed off into barrel. The wine was aged for over 16 months in fine French oak until being blended with Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc and bottled in August of 2014.

## ANTIPODEAN SOMMELIER SAYS

"The locals are calling it the best vintage ever, get in quick before it's all gone."

## TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Residual Sugar	<1g/l
Total Acidity	5.7 g/l
Alcohol	13%
Packaging	12 x 750cl
Blend	81% Merlot, 12% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Cabernet Franc

## DESCRIPTION

Deep, dark cherries and forest berries on the nose with a subtle vanilla character. Intense and bright on the palate with a gorgeous texture and a hint of oak. Vibrant berries and dark chocolate flavours are beautifully balanced by a long, delicate acidity and fine, ripe tannins. Immediately approachable or cellar carefully over the next 3-6 years.



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