

**YEALANDS**  
WINES  
MARLBOROUGH ≈ NEW ZEALAND



## YEALANDS

# Merlot

## Hawke's Bay 2020

Our wine is inspired by the coast that surrounds us, so close to the ocean that our vines are often misted with sea spray. The beauty of our environment influences how we craft wine, respectful of nature and our land. Yealands believes in sustainable winemaking and creating thoughtfully crafted wines that work in harmony with our landscape.

### Tasting Note

#### Bouquet

Concentrated notes of plum, dark berries and underlying cassis and warming spice.

#### Palate

The palate is soft with finely balanced supple tannins and a rich lingering finish.

#### Food Match

Enjoy with barbecued red meats, hearty stews or dark chocolate.

#### Dietary Information

Suitable for vegetarians, vegans and a gluten free diet.

#### Cellaring Recommendation

Enjoy now, or cellar up to 3 years.

### Vintage Summary

We were incredibly lucky to be able to continue to create these wines during the global pandemic crisis. For this reason, our 2020 wines carry some very unique memories.

The 2020 Hawke's Bay growing season started earlier than usual, and was relatively dry except for light spring rains. Disease pressure was low and temperatures were slightly cooler than usual, maintaining beautifully clean fruit with natural balance and concentration.

This Merlot was picked in excellent condition, achieving ripe tannins and concentrated flavour.

### Winemaking

**Winemaker:** Natalie Christensen

**Harvest Date:** 26th March 2020

**Winemaking Analysis:** Alc 14.0% | pH 3.66 | TA 5.1 | RS 1.6 g/l

The low yielding Merlot was harvested and de-stemmed directly into a mixture of open and closed fermenters. A traditional warm fermentation followed with regular pump overs to help craft a wine with elegance and balance. The fruit remained on skins after fermentation to build structure and mouthfeel, it was then gently pressed, settled and racked to stainless steel tanks to undergo malolactic fermentation. After aging with a range of oak, it was then blended, stabilised and filtered prior to bottling.