



2016 Elephant Hill Merlot Cabernet Malbec

Established in 2003, Elephant Hill is located within a stone's throw of the Pacific Ocean on the idyllic Te Awanga coast of Hawke's Bay on New Zealand's North Island.

The winemaking at Elephant Hill is driven by tradition while not losing sight of what innovation can bring to the blend. Our aim is to make wines that are balanced, elegant and a true expression of the vineyards they come from.

Vintage Overview

2016 was a cooler, slower and late vintage compared to the last three vintages. However, this allowed our red varieties to experience a long and gentle ripening period. With multiple picks over a two-week period from late March to mid-April, the result is a wine that exhibits the purity of fruit and elegance typical for a Hawke's Bay red blend.

Winemaking

This is a blend of 67% Merlot, 17% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Malbec and 5% Cabernet Franc from our Gimblett and Triangle Vineyards. The grapes were 100% destemmed and fermented in numerous small batch ferments then gently pressed to oak barriques. The wine received 22 months in 30% new French oak.

Tasting Note

This wine displays juicy, rich Black Doris plum and cassis flavours with well-balanced acidity and fine-grained tannin. It is a wine that will continue to evolve and develop.

Review

"Medium-full bodied, the palate has a rich and well-packed heart with deep and dense flavours of ripe, savoury dark-red and black plum fruit, entwined with some blackcurrants, spiced plum, liquorice and earthy interest. The fruit sweetness is balanced by fine, grainy tannin structure lending grip and texture. The wine carries to a long finish of plums and liquorice with some alcoholic power." -Raymond Chan Wine Reviews, 18.5/20 points

Technical Data

Wine

Alcohol Content: 13.7%
Residual Sugar: < 1g/L
Dry Extract: 29.0 g/L
TA: 5.3 g/L



Elephant Hill
HAWKE'S BAY NEW ZEALAND

86 Clifton Road, Te Awanga,
Hawke's Bay, New Zealand
www.elephanthill.co.nz

info@elephanthill.co.nz
+64 6 873 0400