

Te Mata Estate Elston Chardonnay 2018

Elston is named for Elston Hall in Nottinghamshire, the ancestral home of Charles Darwin's family. Darwin's 'theory of natural selection' forms the basis of modern evolutionary theory, the foundation of biology. The wyvern symbol of Elston Hall appears on the label.

The Story

Established in 1896, Te Mata Estate remains family owned, producing internationally recognised wines exclusively from its Hawke's Bay vineyards. Gifted this name by Ngāti Kahungunu, Te Mata Estate is a winery of place.

Their reputation as one of New Zealand's most outstanding wineries is based upon the quality of their flagship wines, Elston, Cape Crest, Zara, Bullnose, Awatea and Coleraine. With their complexity, structure and balance these wines reward careful cellaring through their continued evolution in bottle

The Vineyard

All Te Mata Estate wines are produced exclusively from our own Hawke's Bay vineyards. A temperate maritime climate with low rainfall, due to the rain shadow from mountains to the west, ensures Te Mata's sites makes the most of every vintage.

At the heart of Te Mata Estate are the Havelock Hills Vineyards - the first legally-protected vineyards in New Zealand. First planted in 1892, Te Mata has five sites on these free draining, north-facing slopes. Soils to the east are mostly sandy loam over a sandstone base, and towards the west are sandy loam over a thin layer of clay and a silica pan. The distinctive shape of the hills is due to their comparative youth, in geological terms. At the meeting point of two tectonic plates, sandstone has been pushed up then worn away relatively quickly leaving a landscape of steep and gentle slopes, and terraces ideal for grape-growing.

Winemaking

Each parcel was gently whole-cluster pressed, cold settled and racked to new and seasoned French oak barrels for fermentation. The resulting wines remained in contact with their yeast lees while undergoing malolactic fermentation. The finest lots were selected for further maturation, spending a total of 11 months in barrel.



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Tasting Note

Pale lemon in colour with a brilliant, diamond-like clarity, Elston Chardonnay '18 shows captivating notes of roasted hazelnuts, cashews and citrus fruits on the nose, alongside crème brûlée and nougat. Tropical fruit, intense white peach and ripe lemon all radiate across the palate. Elston Chardonnay '18, with its signature balance, moreish acidity and fine, lingering finish is lush and powerful. Exceptionally appealing with superb ripeness and length.

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|---------------------------|------------------|
| Alcohol Percentage | 13 % |
| Residual Sugar | Dry |
| T.A. | 6.7 g/L |
| Aging Potential | 7 + years |



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