

# St Nesbit Merlot Cabernet 2010

## The Story

St Nesbit started in 1980 when Tony and Petra Molloy purchased 11 hectares of land on the Hingaia peninsula. Planted in 1980, St Nesbit won acclaim from its first vintage in 1984, producing an elegant red wine that achieved classic status and won several gold medals. The vineyard lies in the shelter of the Drury Hills at Karaka, 30km south of Auckland, surrounded by an estuary on the Manukau Harbour. St Nesbit was the first to import Petit Verdot into New Zealand from France in the late 1980s, after a long struggle with the New Zealand authorities. Since then it has proved itself by consistently producing intensely flavored berries which add significant structure to their wine.

#### The Vineyard

The vineyard lies in the shelter of the Drury Hills at Karaka, 30 km south of Auckland, and is almost entirely surrounded by the Manukau Harbour. St Nesbit only makes one wine, a vineyard-determined blend of Merlot and Cabernet Franc. St Nesbit is only released in vintages that meet our benchmark for quality. St Nesbit achieved classic status in New Zealand in the late 80s and early 90s, winning gold medals for our 1984 and 1987 vintages, and critical acclaim for the 1989, 1990 and 1991. These wines were made to last 20+ years, and all are still drinking well today.

### Winemaking

Wide and short open topped fermenters that were cooled by bore water. Fermentation was entirely through indigenous yeasts. A wooden lattice grid was designed to keep the cap totally submerged, meaning no need to plunge the skins and reduced oxidation. Therefore, he used no sulphur at all during the process, to the great surprise of other winemakers. An unheard of 100% new French Oak was employed, and extended time in barrel of 2-3yrs.

#### **Tasting Note**

Michael Cooper

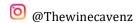
"It is savory and complex, with very good depth of spicy, herbal, nutty, slightly leathery flavors and a good foundation of tannin."



info@thewinecave.nz (+64) 9 930-8115









Alcohol Percentage	13.5 %
Residual Sugar	Dry
T.A.	
Aging Potential	20 years
Varieties	80% Merlot 13% Cabernet Franc 7% Petit
	Verdot







