

William Murdoch Syrah 2017

The Story

William Murdoch Wines is a family owned business with the family participating in all aspects of the vineyard and winery operations. The company aspires only to be a boutique supplier of fine wine producing limited quantities of elegant, organic, fine wines.

The vineyard is operated on organic principles and is in transition to Biogrow organic certification which we hope to attain for the 2010 vintage.

The Vineyard

13.15 ha site in the heart of the Gimblett Gravels, the vineyard, planted in 1999, is devoted to the proven Hawke's Bay red varietals, 18% to Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot in two separated blocks, 37% Syrah, consisting the Chave and MS clones, 7% to Malbec and 5% Cabernet Franc. Surrounded by the vineyards of Mission, Matariki and CJ Pask, with the now Trinity Hill owned block of Mark Blake just down the lane, the Murdoch Wines site in Gimblett Road is as blue-chip as you could ever have. The belief at Murdoch Wines is in "hands-off viticulture", allowing the organic balance of the vines and site come into play.

Vintage 2017

The 2017 growing season was one of extremes. January was one of the driest on record with fine sunny days and our red grapes reaped the benefits from these excellent growing conditions. Hawke's Bay's normal harvest months of March and early April were exceptional in the volume of rain that fell between fine warm days. Our organic practices, low yielding vines and later ripening vineyard, meant we were able to wait until the weather had settled to start the hand harvesting our grapes. Flavours were ripe and fresh and the grapes were in perfect health..


Winemaking

Gentle, respectful handling is the hallmark of our winemaking. We hand pick and gently destem our grapes before moving into small fermenters. Our wines ferment at their own pace, with indigenous yeast from the vineyard. Once ferment is finished, the new wine continues

to macerate with its skins until a balance is achieved between the fruit weight and wine structure. The skins are then pressed using a basket press. The 2017 Syrah was matured for 8 months in older French oak barrels and puncheons to enhance the Syrah character. The wine was bottled in March 2018 after a light fresh egg white fining and filtering.

Tasting Note

Classic, cool-climate Syrah aromas dominate the nose, with intense red currants, blackberries, black pepper, and spice. The wine has a delicious silky texture, and layers of vibrant, complex flavours that dance on the palate. The flavours and fine structure, linger refreshingly on the finish. With its fine balance, complex flavours and elegant structure 2017 William Murdoch Syrah is approachable in its youth, and will continue to evolve, with careful cellaring, over the next 5-8 years



Alcohol Percentage	13 %
Residual Sugar	Dry
T.A.	
Aging Potential	5 -8 years