

Collaboration Argent Cabernet Blend 2011

The Story

Collaboration Wines is a portfolio of finely crafted, small batch wines. A collaboration between myself as owner/winemaker and a collection of passionate growers from specially selected vineyard sites in Hawke's Bay, New Zealand. Collaboration Wines is a portfolio of wines that are a true reflection of the vineyards, varieties and wines that I love. I am dedicated to making wines with layers of depth, richness, complexity and texture that will age gracefully.

The Vineyard

Hawke's Bays maritime climate, microclimates and soil types provide a rich canvas of vineyard sites to work with. Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc and Merlot are grown at Gimblett Road and Bridge Pa. These warmer sites on former riverbeds allow for real depth and richness to be captured in the wines. Chardonnay is sourced from Ohiti, Te Awanga and Havelock North, Hawke's Bay. These outer-lying cooler vineyard sites near the coast and surrounding mountain ranges means the fruit retains a beautiful acidity, elegance and purity.

Vintage 2011

The 2011 vintage in Hawke's Bay was ideal for Cabernet Sauvignon. A warm spring during bud break resulted in a timely bud burst. Cabernet Sauvignon is thick skinned and outlasted the unusual rainy season. The last to be picked and the month of April brought about warm settled weather bringing the Cabernet in to optimum ripeness resulting in a rich, intense wine exhibiting pure Cabernet characters.

Winemaking

All grapes are handpicked, sorted in the vineyard and brought to the winery in individual batches. Cabernet Sauvignon from gravelly vineyard sites blended with a small parcel of Merlot from heavier soil, fermented to 13.5% alc., the wine aged 24 months in 25% new French oak barrels. Unfined and Unfiltered.

Tasting Note

Lisa Perotti MW:

"Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2011 Argent Cabernet Sauvignon puts forward pronounced notes of cassis, pencil shavings and cedar at this very youthful stage with promising nuances of earth, spice box and bay leaves to follow. Medium-bodied, intensely fruited and finely crafted on the mouth, it offers commendable structure and generosity before finishing with great length. "



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THE WINE CAVE
NEW ZEALAND

Alcohol Percentage	13.5%
Residual Sugar	Dry
T.A.	6.5 g/L
Aging Potential	10 + years



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