

Clearview Enigma Merlot Blend 2015

The Story

Purchased in 1986, the neglected but historic Vidal's No.2 Vineyard at Te Awanga, Hawke's Bay was set to become Clearview Estate. Tim Turvey with business partner Helma van den Berg took on the challenge of bringing it back to life. Together they hand grafted and planted the first vines in the winter of 1988. Clearview Estate Winery Ltd was established for the first red wine vintage in 1989, following some experimentation in prior years. Chardonnay began in 1991 with the release of the first Reserve Chardonnay.

The vineyard

The vineyards have a variety of soil types and micro climates which give us the ability to capture the different elements and nuances of each particular site to produce wines of complexity and character. Each grape variety has been carefully matched to the varying soil types, ranging from beach shingle to clay producing a range of flavour profiles unique to our terroir. This diversity provides with extensive blending options and the opportunity to make regionally based, site specific, single

Winemaking

A blend of 75% Merlot, 16.5% Malbec and 8.5% Cabernet Franc from the Te Awanga vineyards, indigenous yeast fermented to 14.4% alc., the wine spending approx. 4 weeks on skins and aged 17 months in 33% new French oak.

Tasting Note

Raymond Chan:

"Dark, deep, black-hued ruby-red colour, a little lighter on the rim. The nose is full and voluminous with well-concentrated, densely packed aromas of very ripe black plum and blackberry fruit, along with nuances of boysenberries and liquorice, dark herbs and earth, and cedary oak detail. The aromatics are complete, integrated and harmonious. Full-bodied, the palate is solidly packed with rich and succulent dark plum and blackberry fruit with nuances of boysenberries and liquorice, interwoven with spices and cedary oak. The mouthfeel is fulsome with underlying fine textures and supple tannin extraction that allows the fruit richness to prevail. The acidity is integrated and the wine flows smoothly to a strong, sustained finish of black plums and cedary oak. This is a fulsome, rich and plush Merlot-based blend with ripe black plum and berry fruits, supported by fine-grained tannins lending a smooth mouthfeel."



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THE WINE CAVE

NEW ZEALAND


Alcohol Percentage	14.5%
Residual Sugar	Dry
Ageing Potential	8 - 10 years



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