



# MERLOT

HAWKE'S BAY  
2023

## VINTAGE OVERVIEW

Vintage 2023 in Hawke's Bay was a challenging growing season; cool conditions throughout the summer coupled with a destructive tropical cyclone meant it was a year for viticultural prowess and winemaking finesse. Rigorous canopy management in the vineyard was vital in light of increased disease pressure due to the large rainfall events.

## KEY VINEYARDS

Our Merlot is grown in vineyards across the Hawke's Bay region where the climate and free draining alluvial soils are renowned for Merlot.

## WINEMAKING

The grapes were crushed, destemmed, and cold-soaked before fermentation with select yeasts, with gentle plunging twice daily for depth and structure. After pressing and malolactic fermentation, the wine matured for 10 months in French oak before blending, light clarification, and bottling - capturing a rich, vibrant Hawke's Bay Merlot.

## TECHNICAL DATA

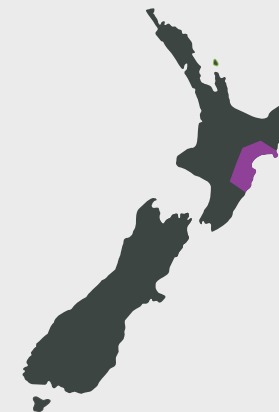
Alcohol: 12.5%  
pH: 3.78  
Acidity: 5.7 g/L  
Residual Sugar: < 1 g/L

## TASTING NOTES

Rich and vibrant, this juicy expression of Hawke's Bay Merlot is bursting with blackcurrant and cassis aromas, and subtle hints of freshly ground coffee beans and fragrant thyme. Soft and silky tannins give this wine a beautifully textured finish.

## FOOD MATCH

The bold flavours of this Merlot are splendid with barbecued meats, or a decadent and rich chocolate dessert.



**Hāhā**  
WINE of NEW ZEALAND

Haha Wine Company Ltd | PO Box 8948, Havelock North, New Zealand  
hahawine.co.nz | +64 6 833 7814

