



‘GIMBLETT GRAVELS’ 2016 SV HAWKES BAY CABERNET SAUVIGNON / MERLOT

SUSTAINABLE WINE NZ REGISTRATION NUMBER: NZWBFDA933CA

Winemakers Notes

Our 2016 SV Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot has been assembled from two different parcels of fruit harvested from the Omaha Road Vineyard on the Gimblett Gravels. The final assemblage is 51% Cabernet Sauvignon & 49% Merlot. The parcels were handled separately and run off to oak for aging. They stayed in oak until June 2017 when assemblage occurred. Only a small amount of new oak was used (15%). Vintage 2016 was stunning on ‘The Gravels’ and the fruit was in delightful condition. Vinification followed a very traditional Bordeaux model and this has allowed the terroir to shine through. The wine has been bottle-aged for a few years for added complexity.

Analysis

Alc 13% **Acid** 5.9g/L **Res Sugar** 2g/L **pH** 3.56

Tasting Notes

Colour: A beautiful deep purple/red, with a dark core and bright, flashing rim.

Bouquet: Very Bordeaux like (Left Bank that is!) with a lovely mix of primary fruit and subtle, yet classy oak.

Palate: Not a massively full-bodied wine, but a wine with great balance, fineness and finesse. The tannins are soft and round and there is just enough fruit sweetness to give the wine real length and focus.

Cellaring

Already approachable (in 2020), but we expect this wine to cellar for a number of years, with larger format bottles developing well into their second decade.

Food Matches

This medium bodied, dry red wine is a perfect match for red meats and pasta dishes. Serve at room temperature.

Independent Reviewer’s Comment

“A wine of maturity and readiness, synergies, and textures. Aromas and flavours of textured cherries and gravelly blackberrys. The integration of texture that delivers the gravel and mouthfeel ideas is delivered through the tannins and acidity. Finer tannins are almost integrated, and acidity delivers some crunch and length. Well made with best drinking from the day of purchase through 2028+.” Cameron Douglas

“A full-coloured, youthful red with good substance, it is mouthfilling, fresh, vibrantly fruity and firmly structured, with strong, ripe blackcurrant, berry, plum and spice flavours. Open 2021+” Michael Cooper.

Awards

93 Points – Cameron Douglas MS, June 2024

4 ½ Stars – Michael Cooper’s Buyer’s Guide 2020

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