

‘GUIDO IN VELVET PANTS’

2019 SELECT VINEYARDS HUAPAI MONTEPULCIANO

SUSTAINABLE WINE NZ REGISTRATION NUMBER: NZW97E5949BB

Winemakers Notes

What’s in a name? Prior to the French Revolution, the Vigne de l'Enfant Jesus vineyard, in the Beaune-Greves appellation, belonged to an order of Carmelite nuns especially devoted to the Infant Jesus. Legend has it that the nuns were so enamoured of the wine's silky texture that they exclaimed, "It slips down the throat as easily as the Infant Jesus in velvet pants." Well, Montepulciano is a wonderfully silky Italian variety, so it made sense to name it after our resident Italian Greyhound, Guido. Hence, our 2019 Huapai Montepulciano slips down the throat as easily as Guido in velvet pants!

Analysis

Alc 13.5%

Acid 6.4g/L

Res Sugar <1g/L

pH 3.49

Tasting Notes

Colour: Montepulciano always has great colour. A saturated black core runs to a deep purple rim.

Bouquet: Typical Montepulciano, with masses of wild black fruits coupled with delightfully savoury hints and a dash of new oak.

Palate: At bottling this wine was full of youthful vitality. Soft, velvety tannins balanced by loads of juicy black fruit in the mid palate.

Cellaring

Already approachable, but we expect this wine to cellar for a number of years.

Food Matches

Rounded tannins and ripe berry flavours make this wine a great accompaniment to many meat dishes such as lamb, venison, beef and game. Many rich sauces go well with this wine, as will roast garlic and vegetables. Understandably, the wine is also superb with pasta!

Independent Reviewer's Comment

“Great colour and concentration, varietal and enticing with aromas and flavours of ripe, dark berries with an opposing natural varietal sour cherry quality. Firm and dry as the wine touches the palate, plenty of tannins and acidity for power and intensity, then dark berry flavours for mouthfeel and length. A lovely example, dry and firm with the classic tannin power that requires time to soften, this wine has the ingredients and intensity for this to happen. Best drinking from 2026 through 2033+.” Cam Douglas

“Attractively ripe and inviting with blackcurrant, olive, game and roasted nut aromas on the nose. The palate displays succulent fruit flavours with plump mouthfeel, well framed by fine-grained tannins. Sturdy and robust with a lengthy structured finish. At its best: now to 2027.” Sam Kim

Awards

93 Points – Cameron Douglas MS, June 2024

5 Stars/93 Points – Wine Orbit, April 2023