



# BABICH

NEW ZEALAND WINE  
SINCE 1916

IRONGATE:

## Cabernet Merlot Franc 2016



We have been producing Babich Irongate Cabernet Merlot Franc since 1986 and it has evolved into this richly flavoured, balanced and elegant wine. The vines from this now-famous Gimblett Gravels Irongate vineyard are selected at pruning, and crop levels are closely monitored to ensure excellent flavour concentration in the grapes.

### INFORMATION

<b>Grape Varieties</b>	54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc
<b>Region</b>	Hawke's Bay
<b>Sub-Region</b>	Gimblett Gravels
<b>Vineyard</b>	Irongate
<b>Harvest method</b>	Hand picked & Machine
<b>Harvest Dates</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> Mar – 15 <sup>th</sup> Apr
<b>Harvest Analysis</b>	Cabernet Sauvignon: 22.7 Brix pH 3.63, TA 7.8g/L, Merlot: 22.2 Brix pH 3.48 TA 6.8g/L, Cabernet Franc: 23.1 Brix pH 3.35 TA 5.4g/L
<b>Processing</b>	Crushed de-stemmed.
<b>Fermentation vessel</b>	Open top vats
<b>Fermentation</b>	Traditional
<b>Malolactic</b>	Yes
<b>Maturation</b>	13-14 months in new & seasoned oak barriques
<b>Fining</b>	Isinglass
<b>Filtration</b>	Yes



EXCELLENCE *through* EXPERIENCE





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## TECHNICAL NOTES

**Alcohol** 13.0%

**TA** 6.2 g/l

**pH** 3.62

**Residual sugar** Dry

## WINEMAKER NOTES

### Note

Sweetly perfumed - clove and cinnamon backed up with dark plums, vanilla and a touch of cedar.

### Palate

Spicy fruit cake with soft coating tannins and leather notes, texturally it's dense and fleshy with lingering fruit. This is a serious wine of complexity and charm.

### Recommended food

This wine is a brilliant match for red meats, game and pasta dishes. A perfect partner for casseroled lamb shanks or with scotch fillet, roasted rare.

**Recommended cellaring** 2-10 years

**First Vintage** 1987

## AWARDS

**93 POINTS** Huon Hooke,  
[www.therealreview.com](http://www.therealreview.com)

**94 POINTS** Rebecca Gibb MW, Decanter  
Magazine, Feb 2019

**94 POINTS** Cameron Douglas MS, The Shout  
Hospitality Magazine, April 2019

**5 STARS** Michael Cooper,  
[www.michaelcooper.co.nz](http://www.michaelcooper.co.nz), Jul 2019

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