



IRONGATE:

Hawke's Bay Cabernet Merlot Franc 2018

Our flagship Irongate Vineyard is situated in an old shingle bed of the Ngaruroro River in the Gimblett Gravels appellation of Hawke's Bay. First produced in 1987, this single vineyard wine has evolved to represent the very best of our craft. Crop-levels are heavily restricted to deliver excellent flavour concentration in the grapes, with the final blend delivering a rich, round and complex wine.



INFORMATION

Grape Varieties	43% Cabernet Sauvignon; 40% Merlot; 17% Cabernet Franc.
Region	Hawke's Bay
Sub-Region	Gimblett Gravels
Vineyard	Irongate
Harvest method	Machine, de-stemmed at harvest
Harvest Dates	9 th Apr – 22 Apr
Processing	Crushed to ferment tank
Fermentation vessel	Open top vats
Fermentation	Low rate yeast additions. Temperature peaking at 33C with gentle hand plunging of cap. An average of 35days on skins.
Malolactic	Yes
Maturation	15 months in French barrels (225L)
Fining	Gelatine
Filtration	Yes



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TECHNICAL NOTES

Alcohol	13.7%
TA	5.6 g/L
pH	3.76
Residual sugar	Dry

WINEMAKER NOTES

Nose

Blackberry, blueberry, cigar box and plum. Inviting and warm with a touch of spice, charcuterie and well integrated oak.

Palate

Smooth and seamless with layers of sweet dark fruits, cocoa, leather, cedar and liquorish. Dense, concentrated and vibrant with a long finish.

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	5-8 years
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First Vintage	1986
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AWARDS



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