Coleraine

2021

Te MATA
ESTATE 1896

97+ POINTS

Gary Walsh | The Wine Front

December 2022 *56% cabernet sauvignon, 32% merlot, 12% cabernet franc. Because I care, I just nipped down to the cellar to open a bottle of the 2020 Coleraine to compare and contrast with the 2021. The 2020 is packed with tannin, texture, earthiness, and power, while the 2021 is brighter, a bit more frisky in acidity, with more leafy perfume. A little more flamboyant, but equal. It's not a competition, more of a love in. The 2021 may well be the 'better' wine in time, though it's kind of hard to tell, and may just come down to personal preference. Dark and intense, lots of perfume, red and black fruits, tobacco, a leafy pop that's pure varietal class, creamy oak, lead pencils, aniseed and spice. Medium to full-bodied, a flood of flavour, super 'mineral' feel to the acidity, tannin is superb, and the finish is so long. Light but so dense. There's a fresh raspberry juiciness here too, and an extra dimension of tension and energy. All the graphite and presence. Incredible wine. Drink: 2026-2045+*

97 POINTS

Huon Hooke | The Real Review

January 2023 *Very deep bright purple colour; the bouquet shows similar mulberry, blackcurrant and raspberry fruit aromas as the Awatea but the wine is more concentrated all-round and shows a little more oak (65% new). There are violet notes and a sprinkle of spices including nutmeg too. The tannins are more persuasive and mouth-coating also, and the length is prodigious. A smashing cabernet blend, and a top vintage for this wine. (56% cabernet sauvignon, 32% merlot, 12% cabernet franc)*

98 POINTS

James Suckling | jamessuckling.com

February 2023 *Redcurrant and creme de cassis aromas. Roses. So aromatic. Stones. Oyster and mussel shell. Ink pot. Lead pencil shavings. Full-bodied but very tight and focused. Linear and long with fine, powdery and chewy tannins. Crushed velvet texture. 56% cabernet sauvignon, 32% merlot, and 12% cabernet franc. More franc than normal in the blend. Terrific length. Try after 2028.*

100 POINTS & 5 STARS

Sam Kim | wineorbit.com

February 2023 *The 2021 Coleraine exhibits a commanding presence and majestic poise. The bouquet reveals classic aromas of cassis, dark plum and violet with whispering nuances of cedar and cigar. There are hints of warm spices, compounding the pleasure upon inhalation. The palate is bold and graceful at once, enhanced by plush texture and multi-layered mouthfeel, beautifully framed by refreshing acidity and fine chalky tannins. Robust and substantial with a great line and length, which seem to go on to infinity. This youthful wine is already impossible to resist, but time will reward those who can wait. In sports, they often talk about 'The Greatest of All Time', or 'The GOAT'. This 2021 Coleraine is undeniably THE GOAT of New Zealand wine. At its best: 2030 to 2055.*

98 POINTS

Erin Larkin | Robert Parker Wine Advocate

September 2023 *The 2021 Coleraine is a superstar. It's the best I recall seeing on the release in recent years, a total 'pleasure-dome' situation. Tea tree, oyster shell, lavender, black tea and tobacco leaf burst from the glass. Seamless, polished tannins race the palate. There is texturally more silk to the tannins here than the Awatea tasted beside this (another great wine, for what its worth). There are notes of creamy red fruits, cassis and bramble, Asian five spice, black cherry and graphite/mineral skein. The persistence of flavour here is extraordinary; its detailed and nuanced but insistent in the mouth. I buy this every year and this year I am very smug about that.*

SUPER CLASSIC & 5 STARS

Michael Cooper | Michael Cooper's Buyer's Guide

February 2023 *Breed, rather than brute power, is the hallmark of Coleraine (correctly pronounced Cole-raine rather than Coler-aine), which since its first vintage in 1982 has carved out an illustrious reputation among New Zealand's claret-style reds. In all vintages since 2007, Cabernet Sauvignon has been the predominant variety. At its best, it is a magical Hawke's Bay wine, with a depth, complexity and subtlety on the level of a top-class Bordeaux. The grapes are grown and hand-picked in the Havelock North hills, in the company's warm, north-facing Buck and 1892 vineyards, and the wine is matured for 16 to 20 months in French oak barriques, predominantly new. The very elegant, beautifully poised 2021 vintage (5) is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon (56 per cent), Merlot (32 per cent) and Cabernet Franc (12 per cent). Highly refined, it is deeply coloured and mouthfilling, with fresh, notably concentrated blackcurrant, plum and spice flavours, hints of herbs and nuts, lovely complexity and a lasting finish. Best drinking 2026+.*