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valley.

GREAT DIRT COLLECTION

RIVER GRAVEL 2019

MERLOT, MALBEC, CABERNET SAUVIGNON
GIMBLETT GRAVELS, HAWKES BAY

VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

Selected plots within the boundaries of the Gimblett Gravels Winegrowing District and with a long history of fine wine production for Esk Valley have been chosen for this wine. These old vines planted in deep gravels in the Cornerstone and Ngakirikiri vineyards date back to the 1990's and early 2000s. They are pruned to short canes and cropped at one bunch per shoot in the pursuit of quality.

WINEMAKING

The individual vineyard parcels were hand harvested and destemmed to individual concrete fermenters for fermentation with wild yeast. A period of post fermentation maceration was employed to lengthen tannins and provide structure before the ferments were pressed and the wine run to french oak barrels for ageing. The individual barrel groups were regularly racked and returned and blended in January 2021 after 20 months ageing. The wine was bottled unfiltered.

WINEMAKER'S COMMENT

This full bodied complex Gimblett Gravels wine is widely regarded as being amongst the finest of New Zealand's red wines, with a pedigree stretching back to 1989. Very deeply coloured it showcases the black fruit nature of Gimblett Gravels wines. Blackberry and dark cherry are complemented with aromas and flavours of tobacco and cedar. This is a powerful and ageworthy wine with excellent cellaring potential.

IDEAL DRINKING

2021 - 2035

TECHNICAL DETAILS

REGION: Gimblett Gravels Hawkes Bay

VARIETIES: Merlot 39% Malbec 31% Cabernet Sauvignon 30%

OAK USE: 19 months in 225 litre french oak barriques 45% new

ALCOHOL: 14.0%

PH: 3.76

TOTAL ACIDITY: 5.54g/L

RESIDUAL SUGAR: <1g/L

Suitable for gluten free diets. Decanting of this wine is recommended as the winemaking techniques used may produce a natural deposit. www.eskvalley.co.nz

