

TASTING NOTES

Mission Jewelstone Chardonnay 2018



Viticulture

Grapes from 20 year old vines located at three sites are grown for this wine. The Taradale vineyard has deep sandy-silt loams while the second vineyard is located in the Ngatarawa Triangle with silt loam soil over gravel. The final vineyard is on gravels near Mere Road. This combination of sites contributes depth and complexity to the finished wine.

The summer was warm and dry in the Hawke's Bay which accelerated ripening and allowed the fruit to accumulate sugars and develop delicious ripe flavours. Most importantly, this warm weather allowed the fruit to develop ripe tannins in the skins and seeds which contributes to richness of flavour and soft texture.

Winemaking

Fruit from the Taradale and Mere Road vineyards was handpicked and whole bunch pressed, while the Ngatarawa Triangle vineyard was machine harvested. The must was barrel fermented with around a third of the barrels new. A third of the wine underwent malolactic fermentation to give a soft buttery character. Extended time on the lees before racking also contributed to excellent palate weight and depth of complexity.

Tasting Notes

The colour is a bright pale straw. The nose is alluring and complex with aromas of grapefruit, lemon meringue and peach blossom. The barrel fermentation imparts butterscotch, brioche and hazelnut character. The palate bursts with intense flavours carried through from the nose. The acidity is in perfect balance keeping the wine fresh and mouth watering. This wine is deliciously rich and full with a long length. The extended barrel maturation has helped seamlessly integrate the oak and lend creaminess to the palate.

Cellar Potential

This wine is currently very fresh and youthful yet already extremely enjoyable. The way this wine has been made will allow it to develop slowly in the bottle and still be drinking well for at least ten years from vintage date.

Alcohol	14.2%
Acidity	6.3g/l
pH Level	3.49

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