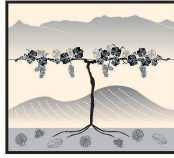


LIME ROCK



WINES

LIME ROCK MERLOT 2008

LIME ROCK Central Hawke's Bay Merlot, grown on limestone hills, is from a single vineyard and hand picked.

Vineyard

Our Merlot is grown on warm, north-facing, sun drenched limestone hills. We have two sites. Our 'Basin Reserve', mid way up our vineyard, has some clay over the limestone and has a 'bowl-like' topography. In G Block our vines are on the bony shallow soils over limestone; these smaller vines usually bear less fruit and ripen earlier. We also, as usual, have a small percentage of Cabernet Franc blended with the Merlot. All grapes are hand pruned and hand picked.

Season

The warm dry autumn ripened the Merlot beautifully. Yield was good, especially when we had a tiny crop in 2007. (The fruit set was so poor in December 2006, that we only had 2-3 berries per bunch, hence no 2007 Merlot for us!).

Winemaking

Hand picked bunches were crushed into small vats and cold soaked over some days before inoculation with yeast. Plunging and pumping was carried out during fermentation and MLF and aging was in premium French barriques for 8 months before blending and bottling.

Harvest	21-22 April, 2008		
	Brix 23.0	pH 3.50	TA 6.2g/l

Bottling	19 February, 2009		
	Alcohol 13.0%	pH 3.43	TA 6.3g/l

Wine Description

With dark fruit, this wine has a juicy mid-palate with blackcurrant, blackberry and chocolate along with some herbal and smoky tones; lovely flavours which linger. This is a more concentrated wine than the previous LIME ROCK Merlot wines; the result of a better season and vine age.

Enjoy with

Beef Kazute: Toss in the Wok ... Beef, Chorizo Sausage, Smokey Bacon, Red capsicum, Orange zest, Fresh Green Herbs, seasoning and LIME ROCK Merlot. Serve with Summer Salad and freshly baked Focaccia.

LIME ROCK WINES

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Cellar door open Saturday and Sunday, from November to end of February.
Ring to visit at other times