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wines worth sharing



Brookfields 'Reserve Vintage' Cabernet / Merlot 2015

Grape Varietals: 80% Cabernet Sauvignon & 20% Merlot

Growing Region: Hawke's Bay, New Zealand

Owner / Winemaker: Peter Robertson

Brookfields reserve Cabernet Sauvignon blends are well respected by those in the know - and over the past decade or so, wine enthusiasts the world over have been paying more attention and enjoying the 'Gold Label' Cabernet / Merlot.

The Cabernet Sauvignon fruit for this wine was grown in an inland heat trap called Ohiti Estate, and the Merlot was grown on a northerly facing slope in the Tuki Tuki Valley next to the river of the same name. Both varietals were cropped at minimally levels to maximize berry flavours. The Merlot was harvested on the 7th of April and the Cabernet Sauvignon on the 14th April. The Merlot clone is 481 and the Cabernet Sauvignon is the ideally adapted LC10.

On arrival into the winery, both varietals were tank fermented on their skins at 25-30°C for at least 14 days with daily pumping overs, then the juice was drained off and the grapes pressed. Only the best pressings were added back into the free run juice. Malolactic fermentation then took place before it was transferred into new French oak barrels for maturation. Then after rigorous barrel sampling and tasting the final blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot was agreed and made ready for bottling.

As you pour this wine into a generous glass you will be greeted by an almost black-red colour and magenta hue. The aromas are full and enticing, showcasing the richness of the wine to follow, with dark berries, dried herbs and oak spice.

The wine is perfectly framed by the French oak, the 2015 'Reserve Vintage' Cabernet / Merlot lands on the plate and magically engages all your senses. Expressing ripe blackberries, dark plums, toast, leather, dried herbs and perfectly entwined spices and oak notes. The palate has an elegance and complexity, and exhibiting a classic dry premium quality Bordeaux left-bank style.

With careful site location and meticulous vineyard work, Peter has been able to express and showcase both Hawke's Bay and the varietals true exciting characters which pleasingly linger long on the finish. This 2015 Brookfields 'Gold Label' Cabernet / Merlot's is a world class Bordeaux blend which will please all who wish to sip, savour and share.

Treat yourself - this wine is definitely worth sharing.

This 2015 Brookfields 'Reserve Vintage' Cabernet / Merlot has 14% Alc. Decant for 40-50 and serve in a generous shaped glass at 17-18°C.

Cellaring Potential:

With good decanting, drinking this coming season; though would appreciate another 18-24 months - and will age well for another 8-10 years.

Food Pairing Suggestions:

Perfect wine pairing with prime red meats, game, roast lamb and rich pasta dishes with a wine-jus, earthy vegetarian cuisine, and aged hard cheeses - *enjoy*.

An elegant, complex Cabernet blend with character and cellaring potential.

