



## SACRED HILL RESERVE

# 2018 SACRED HILL RESERVE HAWKE'S BAY MERLOT CABERNET

As adventurers and explorers we love seeking out the best vineyards to create our Reserve wines. We team pure, intense fruit from Hawke's Bay with attentive winemaking, to make seriously special wines.

### VINTAGE SUMMARY

The 2018 season had the best possible start. The early growing period from December to February was hot and dry with even less rain than last vintage. In fact, January was one of the driest on record with fine, sunny days and our Merlot grapes lapped up the dry heat and excellent growing conditions.

### WINEMAKER'S NOTE

A rich crimson colour, this wine offers delightful notes of lifted red and dark fruits, liquorice and pencil-shaving aromas from French oak with subtle undertones of dried herbs. The palate shows good weight with supple rich grainy tannins to finish.

### VINIFICATION

Gently destemmed without crushing to fermenter for traditional ferment with regular gentle pump overs to extract supple tannins. Soaked on skins post ferment to further soften tannins, and then aged in premium French oak, 15% of which is new and the remainder is 1 and 2 year old oak, to reach optimal maturity.

### TECHNICAL DETAILS

Variety:	93% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Sauvignon
Food Matches:	Red meats and duck
Cellaring:	5 years
RS:	Dry
Alcohol:	13%
pH:	3.57
TA:	6.1 g/L

Hawke's Bay,  
New Zealand

