

STONECROFT

RESERVE SYRAH 2023, GIMBLETT GRAVELS, HAWKE'S BAY

VINTAGE

The 2023 vintage was unlike any other we have experienced. The weather was relatively cool for most of the season with more rain than usual. We were then hit by Cyclone Gabrielle and thought the vintage could be a complete write off. Thankfully, after the Cyclone, the weather changed and the warm end to the summer meant we were able to leave the fruit on the vine and take full advantage of the sunny weather. The quality of this wine is a true testament to these Gimblett Gravels vineyards history and pedigree.

VINEYARD

Roy's Hill and Mere Road Vineyards, Gimblett Gravels

Stonecroft is home to the oldest Syrah vines in New Zealand. These vines were rescued by the winery's founder, Dr. Alan Limmer, from the Te Kauwhata Research Station and planted at Stonecroft in 1984. The original row of vines still stands today, forming the heart of this historic vineyard. The gravelly soils of the Gimblett Gravels provide excellent drainage, ensuring low yields and concentrated fruit, while the warm, dry climate enhances ripening. These sites continue to produce Syrah of exceptional depth and character.

WINEMAKERS COMMENTS

The 2023 Reserve Syrah reveals a richly saturated ruby colour that hints at its depth. Warm black-fruit aromas mingle with fragrant spice – nutmeg, cinnamon and a touch of anise – to create an inviting bouquet. On the palate, layers of ripe blackberry and blackcurrant are joined by whispers of cedar, sweet spice, leather, pepper and liquorice. Supported by firm yet integrated tannins, these flavours come together in a seamless balance that finishes long and smooth.

WINEMAKING

FRUIT HANDLING: 100% Hand-picked

FERMENTATION VESSEL:

Fermented in open-top stainless steel fermenters. Wild ferment. Hand plunged two times daily. Post fermentation soak for two to three weeks followed by maturation in seasoned french barrels.

TECH NOTES

Standard Drinks : 7.4	ALC : 12.5%	Residual Sugar : Dry
Bottled: October 2024	Variety : Syrah	Closure : Screwcap
Clone: 470 / Limmer	Vine Age: 20 + years	Vegan Friendly



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