



CROSSROADS
HAWKE'S BAY, NEW ZEALAND

Milestone Series

MILESTONE SERIES MERLOT 2012

For over 20 years, Crossroads has represented the very best of small parcel Hawke's Bay winemaking.

The Crossroads Milestone Series celebrates our dedication from the vineyard to the winery – creating benchmark wines from the region.

Winemaking: Miles Dinneen

Viticulture: Tony Hoksbergen and Bryon Strachan

Harvested: 8 April – 4 May 2012

Vineyard: Kereru

Oak: 49% Aged in French and American barriques.

Alc/vol: 13.5%

RS: <2g/l

pH: 3.67

TA: 5.78g/l

VITICULTURE

Our vineyards shape the essence of Crossroads wines. The fruit for this wine grew on our Kereru vineyard, 25km inland on the banks of the Ngaruroro River. We balance the crop on these low-yielding vines, thinning to only one bunch per shoot. The warm 2011 vintage created excellent conditions for ripening Merlot in Hawke's Bay.

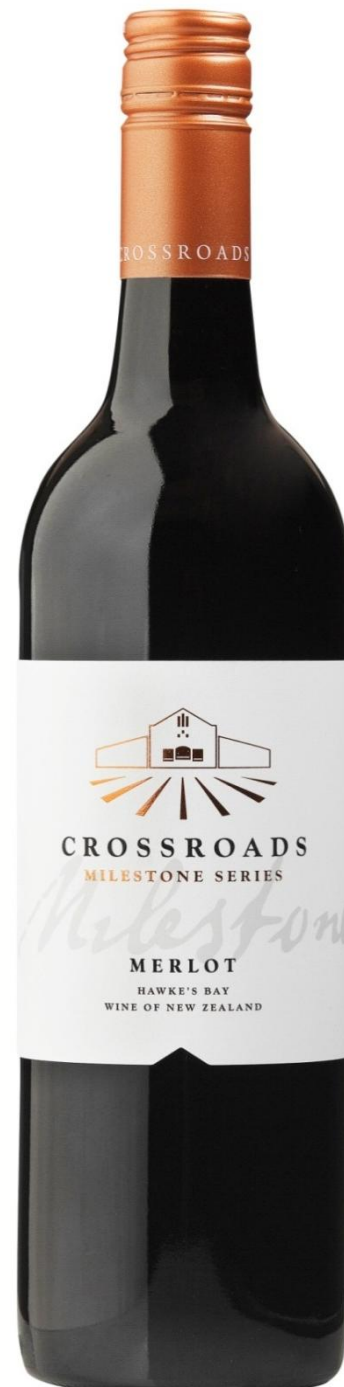
WINEMAKERS COMMENTS

Carefully harvested fruit was destemmed directly into open and closed fermenters, with hand plunging, pump-over and delestage techniques used during fermentation. After post-ferment maceration, the component wines were drained and pressed off, settled, and run to barriques for malolactic fermentation. The blend was assembled after 7 months aging, lightly filtered for clarity and bottled.

The result is a juicy, supple Merlot with fruit notes of blackcurrant and plum supported by warm toasty oak. The rich, silky mid-palate leads to a long, fine finish.

WINE AND FOOD

Partner this Merlot with New Zealand grass fed Lamb and beef, even duck with plum sauce.



WWW.CROSSROADSWINES.CO.NZ