



CROSSROADS
HAWKE'S BAY, NEW ZEALAND



WINEMAKERS COLLECTION CABERNET MERLOT 2012

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

Our Winemakers Collection includes the very best parcels of fruit, carefully selected from our own vineyards, crafted with passion into the most exceptional wines Hawke's Bay has to offer.

Winemaking: Miles Dinneen

Viticulture: Bryon Strachan

Harvested: April 2012

Vineyard: Mere, Kereru and Fernhill

Oak: Aged in French barriques – 40% new

Alc/vol: 13.5%

RS: < 2g/l

pH: 3.74

TA: 5.85 g/l

VITICULTURE

2012 was a temperate low cropping vintage in Hawke's Bay that produced very aromatic, elegant wines. Due to the cooler season we micromanaged yield and hung the fruit later than average to achieve ripeness and balance. The fruit was sourced from our Mere, Kereru and Fernhill vineyards. These vineyards are characterised by free draining soils and a temperate climate, ideal conditions for red fruit. We enhance the potential of the vineyard with intensive management techniques such as early crop regulation to one bunch per shoot and 100% leaf removal in the fruit zone.

WINEMAKING COMMENTS

The fruit was carefully harvested by variety, vineyard block and vigour zone before being de stemmed directly to small open top and closed fermenters. Ferment management techniques included hand plunging, pump overs and delestage for optimum extraction. After extended post ferment maceration the component wines were drained and pressed off, settled and run to barriques where the wine underwent malolactic fermentation. The component wines then slumbered in barriques for 14 months before the blend was assembled and bottled with no fining and a light filtration.

WINE AND FOOD

An elegant wine with fruit notes of blackcurrant and blackberry on the nose, supported with toasty oak. The palate shows concentrated berry and plum flavours with fine supple tannins. Excellent match with New Zealand grass fed lamb and beef.



WWW.CROSSROADSWINES.CO.NZ