





## 2016 POLISH HILL RIVER CABERNET MERLOT

POLISH HILL RIVER RANGE

<b>VARIETY</b>	70% Cabernet Sauvignon   30% Merlot			
<b>FRUIT SOURCE</b>	Polish Hill River in the Clare Valley			
<b>VINTAGE</b>	Vintage 2016 turned out to be one of the best for some years, in spite of some extreme weather events. Winter of 2015, the lead up to our growing season, was quite dry. The "Rain Gods" seemed to be waiting on bud burst as just prior to this we began to see some wet. Good August rain with a nice top up in September and less, but well timed rains in October and November gave indications of a perfect year. No rain in December and just one heavy event in January reversed our opinion as quite some searing heat struck our region. Our policy, since 1999, of not irrigating our vines was put to the test. Surprisingly, given the heat, the vines held on particularly well and maturation of the fruit progressed well, albeit with more varieties ripening at the same rate. We were so pleased to find great flavour development and quite even ripening which always augers well for quality. And we were not disappointed.			
<b>BOTTLED</b>	May 2018			
<b>WINE SPECIFICATIONS</b>	Alcohol	14.9%	Total acidity	6.44 g/L
	pH	3.32	Residual sugar	<2.5 g/L
<b>COLOUR</b>	Deep Ruby Red			
<b>AROMA</b>	Blackcurrant, dark plum and herbaceous notes, combine with dusty oak, cigar box and sweet spice.			
<b>PALATE</b>	Rich blackcurrant and sark fruit flavours, showing slight herbaceous characters. Fine tannins with intergrated French Oak textural mouthfeel.			
<b>OAK MATURATION</b>	18 months in French Hogshead.			
<b>CELLARING</b>	5-10 years			
<b>FOOD IDEAS</b>	Mature cheeses, Coq au Vin and Mediteranean dishes			
<b>SHOW AWARDS &amp; REVIEWS</b>	Winestate Magazine - May -June 2019 Edition - 4 Stars 			
	2019 The New Zealand Wine Show - Silver 			
	Decanter Magazine - April 2020 Edition - 94 Points			
	The Real Review - Nick Butler - January 2020 - 87/100			