



VILLA MARIA
NEW ZEALAND

Grapes
100% Malbec

Region/Appellation
Hawkes Bay

Alcohol by volume
13.50%

Residual Sugar
1 g/l

pH
3.64

Total Acidity
5.12 g/l

Drinking Window
2024 - 2026

Tasting Guide
A B **C** D E
Light Medium Full

Tasting note printed
19/04/2024

Malbec 2019 6x75cl

Winemaker Notes

Down a dark alleyway the brooding and intense characters of blackberry and liquorice meet the heroically proportioned mass of dark chocolate draped in smooth, fine velvet.

Vineyard

The Left Field Malbec is grown on the Te Awa vineyard located in the Gimblett Gravels.

Winemaking

Straight Malbec is a rarity from New Zealand. The Leftfield Malbec is a lighter style, with loads of fresh fruit flavours and Christmas cake spice. Once harvested, the fruit undergoes fermentation in open-top vats before the young wine is sent to French and American oak barrels (~15% new) to hang out for 10 months before blending and bottling.

Vintage

The 2019 harvest was one of the finest on record. Spring was cool and wet and the weather over key flowering periods seemed unkind at the time. Crops were eventually down as much as 25%, but this alone does not explain the quality of the fruit at harvest. Summer was fine and warm with intermittent rain keeping a drought prone province green, the vines seemingly never under any stress. Veraison though had proceeded quickly over a fine spell of weather which would give consistency to the ripeness of berries. Harvest arrived slightly early but no records were broken here. In fact it seemed very much a normal harvest until we approached our first pick. The berries though had developed abnormally thick skins blessed with an abundance of colour and flavour. This coupled with a spell of fine weather over harvest period, allowed us to pick when full ripeness had been achieved. Both whites and reds have excelled.

Food match

Grilled and Roasted Red Meats

Imbibe on its own or devour with a rare cut of beef.

