VILLA MARIA
ESTATE

VILLA MARIA RESERVE HAWKES BAY MERLOT 2005

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

New Zealand Red Bordeux Varietals over £10 trophy – Decanter 2008
Gold – A & P Mercedes Benz Wine Awards 2008
5 Stars – Winestate 2008

VINEYARD DATA

Vineyards	Ngakirikiri, Twyford Gravels and Omahu Gravels, in Gimblett Gravels.
Vineyard Yield	1.75-2.25kg/vine
Vintage Detail	Extreme weather conditions with a hot summer and heavy isolated rain periods
Hand Harvested	100%

SOILS AND VITICULTURE

The vineyards of Villa Maria which are located in the driest and warmest parts of the Gimblett Gravels have consistently produced fruit for the Reserve blend for a decade now. The free-draining gravely soils and the warm temperatures of the Gimblett Gravels naturally encourage low yields and devigourated vines. Low crop levels with shoots numbering 20-25 per vine ensure the resulting fruit is deeply coloured, richly flavoured and displays ripe tannins.

WINEMAKING DATA

Whole Bunch: No	Destemmed: 100%
Cap Management: Hand plunging	Time on skins: 4 weeks
Fermentation Vessel: Open top	Barrel Type: French and American fine grained
New Barrel: 61%	Maturation: 22 months
Fining: Gentle egg white	Filtration: Minimal
Malolactic: 100%	Bottled: May 2007

TASTING NOTE

The 2005 Reserve displays a dense nose with considerable depth, featuring small red and black berries, floral violet, vanillin and cedar-briary spice notes. This wine is highly seductive as great Merlot should be; the palate is highly refined with textural tannins and creamy supportive oak, and features tightness, balance and length.

CELLARING

2009-2020

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Region: Hawkes Bay – Gimblett Gravels 100%
Varieties: Merlot 86%, Malbec 6%, Cabernet Sauvignon 8%
Alcohol: 14%
pH: 3.42
Total acidity: 6.82gL
Residual sugar: n/a
Barcode: 29414416200889

May contain traces of milk, fish and/or egg products. Contains sulphites. Suitable for gluten free diets.
www.villamaria.co.nz
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