

*esk
valley.*
The Terraces

**HEIPIPI THE TERRACES
HAWKES BAY
MALBEC/MERLOT/CABERNET
FRANC 2016**



AWARDS & ACCOLADES

96/100 – Bob Campbell MW

95/100 & James Suckling's Top 100 NZ wines of 2018 – James Suckling

93/100 – Vinous.com

VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

The Terraces Vineyard is perched on the steep north -west orientated hillside above the Esk Valley winery near Bay View in the North of Hawkes Bay. This sunny, sheltered site was originally planted in the 1940s and re-established with its current plantings in 1989. It occupies approximately one hectare and is planted with Malbec, Merlot and Cabernet Franc which are harvested and fermented together as a field blend and true expression of the vineyard. The soils are complex with low fertility, containing layers of seashell and limestone, interspersed with clay and volcanic ash. The vines are spur-pruned, thinned to one bunch per shoot and hand harvested.

WINEMAKING

This wine is fermented as a vineyard blend with the individual plots of Malbec, Merlot and Cabernet Franc being harvested and processed together. The grapes were hand harvested, sorted and destemmed to a single 80 year-old concrete vat for fermentation. Hand plunging was employed for cap management. The finished wine was aged in 50% new French oak barriques for 17 months and bottled unfiltered and unfiltered.

WINEMAKER'S COMMENT

This is a handcrafted wine with much effort made to produce a wine that is a true expression of its site. The wine is deeply coloured and full of primary black fruits, including cherry and blackberry. As a young wine, French oak notes complement the fruit, but with time, complexity and vineyard nuances will predominate. This wine has been sealed with a screw cap to guarantee the quality of each bottle and offer even greater cellaring potential.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Region: Hawkes Bay

Varieties: Malbec 40%, Merlot 33%, Cabernet Franc 27% approx.

Oak Use: French oak barriques (50% new)

Alcohol: 14.0%

pH: 3.77

Total acidity: 5.7g/L

Residual sugar: n/a

Decanting of this wine is recommended as the winemaking techniques used may have a natural deposit.

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