

Te MATA

ESTATE 1896

AWATEA CABERNETS / MERLOT 2018



Origin / First made in 1982, Awatea continues to represent the best of the classic Hawke's Bay Cabernet/Merlot blend. Awatea takes its name from the historic ship SS Awatea (a Maori word meaning "Eye of the Dawn") that sailed the Auckland – Sydney – Wellington route in the late 1930s. The Awatea was requisitioned as a troop transport in WWII and was sunk off Algeria in 1942.

Appellation / Hawke's Bay

Vineyards / The grapes for Awatea 2018 were hand harvested from Te Mata Estate's vineyards in the Havelock Hills and Gimblett Gravels sub-regions between March 25 - April 20, 2018.

Winemaking / The separate parcels of grapes were destemmed before a traditional warm, plunged fermentation and extended maceration on skins. The resulting wines were then run to new and seasoned French oak barrels for 16 months of aging. Throughout this time, they were regularly topped and raked. The separate wines were blended in January 2019, then returned to barrel for their second winter. The finished wine was bottled in October 2019.

Tasting Notes / Dark and bright, Awatea Cabernets/Merlot 2018 is an inky purple with an electric crimson edge. From a warm and dry vintage, Awatea 2018 shows ripe blackberry and blackcurrant aromatics with elements of vanilla creme and sandalwood. On the palate there's a banquet of plum, raspberry, dried herbs and lingering dark cherry, set out across cedar and cocoa powder tannins. Classical in structure, with fine balance and length, Awatea Cabernets/Merlot 2018 is resplendent in its purity and detail.

Varietal Composition / 48% Cabernet Sauvignon, 37% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc

Alcohol / 13.5%

TA / 5.9 g/L

pH / 3.58

ESTABLISHED IN 1896, TE MATA ESTATE REMAINS FAMILY OWNED, PRODUCING INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED WINES
EXCLUSIVELY FROM ITS HISTORIC, HAWKE'S BAY VINEYARDS

ESTATE GROWN. ESTATE BOTTLED. ESTATE WINES.

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