Te Mata

From Hawke's Bay's historic vineyards, this wine epitomises Te Mata's mastery, combining concentration, elegance, and balance with exceptional ageing potential.

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Alcohol :14,00 %

Composition: 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc

Coleraine 2022

Hawkes Bay, New Zealand

Region and Vineyards

Hawke's Bay, located on the eastern coast of New Zealand's North Island, is celebrated for its warm maritime climate and diverse soils, particularly suited to Bordeaux varieties. The long, dry growing season provides excellent ripening conditions for Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, and Cabernet Franc, producing wines with both structure and aromatic lift.

Coleraine is sourced from Te Mata's oldest vineyards in the Havelock Hills, first planted in 1892. Initially a single-vineyard wine, since 1989 Coleraine has been an **assemblage** of the estate's best plots. In 2022, the grapes were harvested between March 12 and April 1 from selected parcels, reflecting both history and terroir. These hillside vineyards, with their free-draining soils and exposure to cooling breezes, contribute freshness and precision to the wine's profile.

Winemaking

The 2022 blend is composed of **84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Merlot, and 3% Cabernet Franc**. Each parcel was destemmed and underwent traditional warm-plunged fermentation with extended maceration on skins, extracting colour, tannin, and flavour.

Maturation took place in predominantly new French oak barrels for 17 months. During this period, the wines were regularly topped and racked to encourage gentle oxygenation and integration of tannins. The final blend was made in December 2022, and the wine was bottled a year later, in December 2023. Technical analysis shows an alcohol of 13.5%, total acidity of 6 g/L, and pH 3.65 - a composition that promises longevity and balance.

Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Deep ruby with purple highlights, dense and youthful.
- **Aroma**: Floral notes of lavender and violet entwined with plum and blackcurrant, layered over graphite, nori, coffee grounds, vanilla, and tobacco.
- **Palate**: Intensely concentrated with vibrant freshness. Fine, polished tannins deliver precision and detail, unfolding in layers of dark fruit, savoury complexity, and exacting finesse on a long, resonant finish.

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Did you know?

Coleraine was first produced in 1982 and named after the vineyard home of John and Wendy Buck. The name honours John Buck's grandfather, who was born in Coleraine, Northern Ireland. Today, it remains **New Zealand's most iconic red wine**, often compared to the great Bordeaux blends of Pauillac and Saint-Julien.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Dry-aged ribeye steak**: The tannic structure binds beautifully with the marbled richness of the meat.
- **Roast lamb with rosemary and garlic**: Classic Hawke's Bay produce meets its vinous counterpart in a marriage of herb and savour.
- **Wild venison with juniper and redcurrant**: The wine's dark fruit and graphite notes highlight game flavours while its acidity lifts the dish.
- **Aged hard cheeses (Comté, Cheddar)**: Their nutty depth mirrors the wine's savoury complexity.

97

Robert Parker (RP) : 97 Points (2022)

The 2022 Coleraine is a blend of 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Merlot and 3% Cabernet Franc. On the nose, the wine shows its sweet creamy oak, a cavalcade of dark fruit and an array of spices. The wine is powdery and ultra fine, with a gravelly score of tannin woven through the finish. A spectacular wine, it's still looking so primary and young at this early stage. I note the total acidity is akin to the 2013 vintage, and it serves to add an extra layer of freshness to the finish—a little uptick to close, if you will. This is awesome. It gets better every time I taste it. 13.5% alcohol, sealed under natural cork.Rating: 97+

97 vinous

Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 97 Points (2020)

The 2020 Coleraine is a wine that's going to give and give over the long term with its elegant shape and huge substance. Winemaker Phil Brodie explained that this was a year where Merlot acted like Cabernet Sauvignon, offering depth and richness of tannins, and he wasn't kidding: the power within the wine and the mass of gravelly tannins coat all sides of the palate. There's intense yet slightly sweet black currant and blackberry fruit combined with cocoa and licorice. The lengthy finish is fragrantly spiced with flavors reminiscent of cinnamon, cocoa and black tea. While silken in the mouth, this conveys an overall impression of muscle and depth. Rather closed due to its youth, but it appears more impressive than the 2019 for its structure and smidgen of extra ripeness (14% in 2020 versus 13.5% in 2019). Those who prefer their classical clarets for freshness and line (e.g., 2010 over 2009 Bordeaux) may prefer the 2019 over the 2020, but the class of the 2020 can't be denied. (RG)

97 James Suckling

James Suckling (JS) : 97 Points (2020)

A beautiful nose of graphite, blackcurrant, crushed stone, blackberry, bark and sage. Medium- to full-bodied with velvety, structured tannins. Linear onto a wide open palate with so much clarity and length. Mineral complexity sits underneath the wonderfully ripened black fruit giving definition and dynamics. Steady acidity. Fresh herbs and black tea. Pine, too. So attractive now but needs time. 57% cabernet sauvignon, 36 merlot and 7% cabernet franc. Sustainable. Best after 2026.