



GRAPE-TO-GLASS

wines worth sharing

Brookfields 'Reserve' Cabernet / Merlot 2020

Grape Varietals: 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot & 10% Cab-Franc

Growing Region: Hawke's Bay, New Zealand

Owner / Winemaker: Peter Robertson



I have had the pleasure of working with Brookfields for three decades. And over this time, Peter's premium Bordeaux red blend has been an icon wine here in New Zealand and around the globe. Well-known and respected by those in the know, with wine enthusiasts the world-over paying due attention and enjoying this 'Reserve Vintage' wine.

This 2020 'Gold Label' (as it is locally known) a Cabernet predominant cuvee, is the culmination of diligent attention across the different vineyards and then respectful winemaking. This 'Reserve' label wine is only crafted in ideal years, and the 2020 is an exceptional addition to the dynasty.

The three varietals and specific parcels were carefully harvested and fermented separately. With the fruit being tank fermented on skins for about 2 weeks with regular daily pump-overs. The primary juice was drained off and then the grapes were gently pressed. Only the best pressing parcels were added back to the free run juice. Then undergoing malolactic fermentation before being transferred into new French oak barrels for approximately 13 months maturation.

This 2020 'Reserve Vintage' Cabernet / Merlot embraces the tradition established by this blend. Cabernet Sauvignon is the backbone with Merlot adding to the fruit profile while the Cabernet Franc is the catalyst that enhances and unifies the mid palate.

The inviting nose reveals ripe blackcurrants, cigar box, cacao, dried herbs, earthy spices and a vanilla oak note. The wines richness of character surreptitiously immerses your senses, expressing a defined symmetry and agility, with these self-assured varietals stepping forward in unison for your deliberation and admiration which is easily given. Elegantly supported with precise tannins and balanced oak giving the palate structure and a refined texture. This wine has a distinctive signature, along with a respectful recognition of its heritage, integrity, refinement and beguiling personality. This is a gracious wine, and as I have said before: 'it will not go quietly into that good night', it has an enduring charm and distinguished finish. *Treat yourself - this wine is definitely worth sharing.*

This 2020 Brookfields 'Gold Label' Cabernet / Merlot has 14% Alc. Classic dry style. Decant for 45-60 minutes and serve in a generously shaped wine glass at 16° - 18°C.

Cellaring Potential:

With mild decanting, approachable now - though it would appreciate 18-24 months and will gracefully age for another 12 - 15 years.

Food Pairing Suggestions:

Perfect wine pairing with prime wagyu, eye fillet, roast beef, slow cooked wild game meats with a wine-jus, rich pasta dishes, and earthy vegetarian cuisine, along with aged hard cheeses & crusty bread - *enjoy.*

An iconic Hawke's Bay Bordeaux cuvée expressing charm & character.

