MAN O' WAR

WAIHEKE ISLAND
NEW ZEALAND WINE

WARSPITE 2014



BLEND 60% Cabernet franc, 30% Merlot, 10% Malbec.
HARVEST DATE 2/4/14 - 10/4/14
BRIX AT HARVEST 24.3 - 27.3
BARREL 50% new French Oak.
T.A 4.2
pH 3.89
R.S 0 g/L
ALC 15.7%

CELLAR NOTES

2014 was an excellent season with a terrific fruit set followed by a long settled growing season and although our Bordeaux varietals are always some of the last to be picked we avoided any of the late rains that threatened the season.
Components for the Warspite come from the steep hillside vineyards located on the beautiful Ponui Island approximately 4 nautical miles off the coast of Man O' War Bay. Requiring a picking schedule that calls for a full tide in the early morning, the harvesting equipment and pickers sail to Ponui for a full day of picking, transporting the grapes back in the evening tide for processing at the winery. After careful hand harvesting the fruit is delivered to the winery and then put across a sorting table before being 100% de-stemmed and delivered to open vats for fermentation.
All of our red ferments undergo fermentation with wild yeasts with pump overs being carried out twice daily. Following an extended time on skins (average 35 days in vat) the wines are gently pressed and taken straight to barrel for natural malolactic fermentation in the spring.
The wines are racked once to a blend after 18 months before further maturing in tank for 3 months prior to bottling.

TASTING NOTES

Warspite 2014 is a rich, ripe wine with sweet red berry fruit framed by savoury earthy notes of roast drippings and pencil shavings. Full bodied and voluptuous this wine has a sweetness of new oak which is well supported by ripe firm tannins making for a decadent expression of a Cabernet franc dominated blend.

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