

DELEGAT HAWKE'S BAY CABERNET MERLOT 2008

Our Regional Varietal wines are a showcase of New Zealand's greatest wine-growing regions. These wines are made as a true regional varietal expression; rich and intensely flavoured wines with stunning elegance from Hawke's Bay, and expressive and vibrant wines with remarkable fruit character from Marlborough.

Jiri Delegat

WINEMAKER'S NOTE:

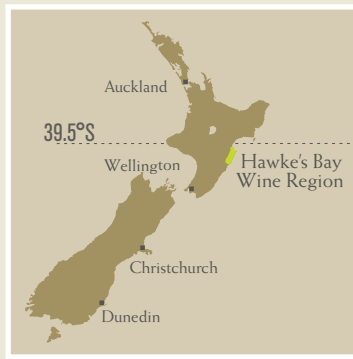
Cabernet Sauvignon 55%, Merlot 45%.
Vibrant Black Doris plum and blackberry notes with a rich undercurrent of black berry fruit and lingering fine grained tannins.



EST 1947
DELEGAT
New Zealand

Proudly presented by a family that has been passionate about New Zealand wine for over 60 years. The Delegat homestead symbolises an untiring and uncompromising passion to produce exceptional wine from New Zealand's greatest wine regions.

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Wine Analysis

Alc:	12.5% v/v
Titrateable acidity:	5g/L
RS:	3.10g/L
pH:	3.7

WINEMAKING

The grapes were destemmed, crushed and transferred in to open top fermenters. The must was inoculated with a yeast selected to accentuate and complement the red berry fruit and plum characters in the grapes. The majority of fermentation was completed in tank and was hand plunged for colour and fruit tannin extraction. A small portion was run-off to

French oak barriques to complete fermentation. The wine was then pressed to tank for settling, racked and run-off to French oak barriques to undergo malolactic fermentation. The wine was then aged for 6 months in barriques, providing structure and integrated soft tannins. The final blend was treated with a gentle egg white fining prior to bottling.

HAWKE'S BAY GROWING SEASON 2008

The 2008 Hawke's Bay Growing Season was slightly warmer than the long term average. Overall, each month accumulated higher than average Growing Degree Days with the exception of a cool December. A minor frost event in September, which occurred before flowering, resulted in slightly reduced yields across the majority of vineyard blocks. The La Niña weather pattern provided long sunshine

hours over the flowering period and generally promoted good fruit set in Hawke's Bay. Overall, the 2008 season was drier than the long term average. September, October, November and January were all drier than average, balanced with a wetter than average December, February, March and April. This ensured very good flavour and colour development in the fruit.

