

# PURIRI HILLS

## WINE OF NEW ZEALAND

ESTABLISHED IN 1996 PURIRI HILLS IS A FAMILY OWNED VINEYARD IN CLEVEDON, PRODUCING ESTATE GROWN AND BOTTLED WINES ORIGINALLY INSPIRED BY THE GREAT BORDEAUX BLENDS OF ST EMILION AND POMEROL

## 2009 RESERVE

**Puriri Hills Reserve is a designated Regional Classic that builds a reputation on being elegant, delicious and consistently ageworthy. Puriri Hills wines are released five to eight years after vintage to ensure that newly launched wines are ready to drink upon release.**

### ORIGIN

Classic varieties of Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Carmenère, (a lost bordeaux variety) Cabernet Sauvignon and Malbec are grown in a single vineyard at Clevedon overlooking the Hauraki Gulf in Southeast Auckland. They are blended to create an outstandingly complex and elegant wine.

### VINTAGE

2009 was a very dry year with very little rain over summer. The vintage was small producing only 26 hectolitres per ha. The berries were small and very concentrated. The canopy and fruit are manicured by hand throughout the season. We are dry land farmers and embrace the practices of natural farming managing our vineyard with organic or biodynamic soil additions and manual canopy and understory work.

We handpicked parcels at the peak of ripeness from mid to late April. Vine spacing is 1 x 2.5 metres. Vine age is 8 to 12 years

### WINEMAKING

In the winery, bunches were 100% destemmed and 80% crushed into oak cuves or stainless steel open-top fermenters. Ferments were cold soaked for 4-5 days to allow wild yeast development, then inoculated with oenological yeasts. Total time on skins ranged from 3-4 weeks depending on the varietal and the character desired. Free run wines were put to barrel and marc was lightly basket pressed. All wine was barrel-aged in French oak, about 87% new, for ca. 24 months before final blending. It was bottled under cork on the estate and aged in bottle before release. Drink now through 2025

### TASTING NOTES AND REVIEWS

*93 points. "Puriri Hills is truly different from New Zealand producers, releasing its wines five to eight years after the vintage. The newly launched vintages are ready to drink upon release like this Reserve. It is savoury, with hints of tobacco, pencil lead and herbal tones and offers up an elegant and fresh expression with a dry, savoury conclusion; fine tea-leaf-like tannis coat the palate."* **Decanter Magazine 2018**  
**Reviews by Rebecca Gibb**

*95 Points, "Rich, complex and concentrated red with an array of berry, spice, floral, violet, fresh herb and classy oak flavours. A bright, high energy wine that's a pleasure to drink now but should continue to develop in the bottle for a few years yet."* **Bob Campbell Jan 2015**

*5 Stars, "Tasted in late 2017, the 2009 vintage has developed excellent complexity. Full-coloured, mouthfilling and savoury, it is plummy, spicy and nutty, with a hint of dark chocolate. and a firm, long finish."* **Michael Cooper Seeing Red Feb 2017**

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#### Technical Notes:

- Winemakers and Owners: Judy Fowler and Phil Nunweek
- Consulting Winemaker: Evert Nijzink
- Less than 4500 bottles produced
- 46% Merlot, 27% Cabernet franc, 20% Carmenère, 7% Cabernet sauvignon
- Alcohol Content: 13.5%.

