

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

2010 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

2010 gave us virtually perfect growing conditions and produced a moderate crop with small healthy berries. 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 between 1 April and 3 May. Total production for the vintage was 15.5 tonnes from 5.5 acres of vines (less than 34 hectolitres per hectare). Vine spacing is 1 x 2.5 metres. Vine age is 9 to 13 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 75% new, for ca. 21 months before final blending. It was fined with egg white but was not sterile-filtered. It was bottled under cork on the estate and aged in bottle for three years before release. Drink now through 2025

TASTING NOTES AND REVIEWS

97 Points, "Seamless wine with a silken texture and extraordinary lengthy finish. Blackberry, plum, anise/spice and a hint of wild flowers are just a few of the more obvious flavours. Accessible now but will age well. Top wine from an outstanding vintage." **Bob Campbell Jan 2015**

5 Stars, "this outstanding red is sturdy (14% alc/vol), with blackcurrant, plum, spice and nut flavours, dense and lush. Showing lovely richness and harmony, it's still unfolding but already it's hard to resist." **Michael Cooper Seeing Red Feb 2017**

Technical Notes:

- Winemakers and Owners: Judy Fowler and Phil Nunweek
- Consulting Winemaker: Evert Nijzink
- Less than 4100 bottles produced
- 61% Merlot, 14% Carmenère, 14% Cabernet sauvignon, 7% Cabernet franc, 4% Malbec
- Alcohol Content: 14.0%
- pH: 3.65
- Total acidity: 5.6 g/l
- Brix at harvest: 24 – 26°

