

## ‘CHALK RIDGE’

### 2016 SELECT VINEYARDS HAWKES BAY SYRAH

SUSTAINABLE WINE NZ REGISTRATION NUMBER: NZW923A4C5AB

#### Winemakers Notes

This wine is based on our Chalk Ridge block, just to the south of Havelock North. It is a steep, north facing amphitheatre that is strewn with fossilised limestone. We did two passes through the vineyard on 7<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> April. A tiny amount of Viognier is included as whole cluster fruit in one of the ferments (overall 0.9%). The fruit was in fabulous condition in 2016 and we think that this may be one of the best ever wines to come off this very special block. Post ferment and MLF the wines went off to French oak (with just a touch of new oak in the mix). Final assemblage occurred in June 2017 and the wine was bottled on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017.

#### Analysis

**Alc** 13.5%      **Acid** 6.3g/L      **Res Sugar** 2g/L      **pH** 3.59

#### Tasting Notes

**Colour:** A beautiful deep purple/red, with a dense, dark core and bright, flashing purple rim.  
**Bouquet:** The essence of Hawkes Bay Syrah: masses of black fruits, a touch of pepper, intriguing floral notes, some meatiness and lovely, savoury oak.  
**Palate:** A beautifully structured wine. Medium to full bodied with silken tannins and great length. The fruit in the mid palate lasts and lasts.

#### Cellaring

Already approachable, but we expect this wine to cellar well for a number of years.

#### Food Matches

The soft tannins, ripe fruit flavours, black pepper and spice make this wine a great accompaniment to many meat dishes such as lamb, venison, beef and game. The bolder and more complex style means that it will stand up to richer flavours and accompaniments.

#### Suggested wine list description

A rich and full-bodied wine full of dark fruit flavours with lashings of pepper and a long savoury finish.

#### Independent Reviewer’s Comments

“Priced right, this single-vineyard red is deeply coloured, full-bodied and well structured. It has fresh, concentrated plum and spice flavours, a hint of black pepper, fine-grained tannins and impressive complexity. Open 2021+.”

#### Awards

4<sup>1/2</sup> Stars – Winestate November 2018