

## Obsidian Reserve Syrah - 2015 Waiheke Island

### REGION

**Varieties:** Syrah

**Region:** Onetangi Valley, Waiheke Island, Auckland, New Zealand.

### APPEARANCE

Bright purple in the glass.

### BOUQUET

Lifted aromas of blackberry along with hints of ripe plums and spice.

### PALATE

This is a medium bodied wine showing an abundance of sweet fruit and ripe silky tannins. The oak is well judged and contributes to the persistent finish.

### CELLARING

Approachable now but will reward careful cellaring for up to 10 years

### VINTAGE 2015

**Picking date:** hand picked 1, 23 April 2015

**Growing conditions:** Growing conditions: A cool wet spring continued into November, resulting in variable crop levels in some varieties. Late spring saw parts of Waiheke affected by isolated hail showers also impacting some earlier flowering varieties. December through January was warm and humid with northerly winds predominating. Late summer was mostly settled apart from a near miss as Cyclone Pam tracked down the East Coast of the North Island bringing strong winds but very little rain.

Weather conditions over harvest were generally settled allowing fruit to be harvested in optimal conditions.

### VINIFICATION

The majority of the fruit was destemmed to open-top fermenters, while around 10% was added directly to the fermenters as whole bunches.

Twice daily plunging during fermentation before an extended maceration period post fermentation. The wine was aged in 40% new French barrels for 14 months before a light fining and bottling.

### TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Bottled: 30 June 2016, 133Dozen

Alcohol: 14.0%

Titrateable Acidity: 5.7 g/l

pH: 3.77

**Winemaker:** Michael Wood



### ACCOLADES

★★★★★ (19.0-/20) Raymond Chan

"Dark, deep, black-hued purple-red colour, a little lighter edged. The nose is softly full building in solidness with densely packed aromas of ripe blackberry fruit entwined with dark raspberries and plums, along with iron-earth elements. With aeration, a little black pepper, spices and violet florals emerge. Medium-full bodied, the palate possesses sweetly rich and vibrant fruit flavours of ripe blackberries, dark raspberries, plums and black pepper, unveiling dark-red and violet florals. The flavours form a good, concentrated, seamless heart. The fruit richness is balanced and supported by fine-grained, ripe, flowery tannins which enable accessibility. The acidity is refreshing and integrated. The wine flows with good energy to a long, elegant, sweet-fruited finish. This is a rich, vibrant, seamlessly concentrated Syrah with ripe black fruits, floral notes and a fine-textured palate. Match with venison and game meat dishes over the next 8-9+ years."

★★★★★ (95/100) Sam Kim Wine Orbit

"A beautifully styled syrah, the fabulously expressed bouquet shows dark plum, cranberry, roasted beetroot, cedar and black olive characters. The palate delivers excellent fruit intensity and purity, elegantly framed by silky texture and supple tannins. The wine is wonderfully poised and composed, and promises to evolve gracefully. At its best: now to 2023."

★★★★★ (95/100) Bob Campbell MW