

# The Aviator Magnum Red Blend — 2015

## SPECIAL RESERVE

### VINEYARDS

All grapes used for the Alpha Domus blends are grown with a specific target in mind. Vines are pruned to lower bud numbers, shoot thinning, lateral and bunch thinning are just a few of the passes we make through the vineyard. Seasonal adjustments are made in yields to guarantee excellent fruit ripeness and concentration.

### WINEMAKING

The grapes were brought into the winery at perfect ripeness where traditional Bordeaux winemaking practices are combined with methods that enhance the best of the Hawke's Bay terroir. Six parcels were fermented, and hand plunged in small open topped vats. After extended skin contact the wine was pressed off to complete malolactic fermentation in barrel, 46% new, 100% French oak. Barrels were kept separate during maturation to give greatest blending possibilities, both from vineyard batches as well as oak influences. Individual barrels were tasted and selected for the blend based on quality and their contribution to the blend. Those selected give the wine depth of colour, intense fruit aroma, subtle oak and above all fine long tannins. The final maturation time in oak was 18 months.

### TASTING NOTE

Cabernet Sauvignon dominant with Cabernet Franc, Merlot and Malbec this is a very elegant, rich wine, showing lovely delicacy and depth, it's already very approachable and will develop gracefully for many years. An aroma of berry fruits, spice, cassis, cedar, and cigar box notes, complemented by fine oak. Sweet rounded flavours of blackberry and wild brambles, mocha, spice, and fine oak tannin. This wine shows a complex bouquet, silken texture and firm structure.

Cabernet Sauvignon 50%, Cabernet Franc 22%, Merlot 21%, Malbec 7%

### CELLARING

The benefit of a magnum is that the process of ageing occurs at a slower rate, this affording the wine more time to achieve its ultimate peak maturity.

### TECHNICAL ANALYSIS AT BOTTLING

pH	3.64
Total acidity	5.4 g/l
Alcohol	13.5%
Residual Sugar	<1 g/l

### ABOUT ALPHA DOMUS

From our origins in 1989, establishing both vineyard and winery, Alpha Domus was a pioneer in the renowned Bridge Pa Triangle Wine District of Hawke's Bay. New Zealand family owned, we have always been inspired to create beautiful wines of worth; the importance of quality and expert craftsmanship paramount. Alpha is derived from the first initials of the founding family members names in age descending order, Anthonius, Leonarda, Paulus, Henrikus and Anthonius, Domus is Latin for home.

ALPHA—DOMUS

