

The Navigator Red Blend — 2016

RESERVE

VINEYARDS

Fruit for this wine was sourced from our estate vineyard. We use a variety of clones mostly grafted on 101-14 rootstock. All vines are cane pruned, with bud reduction, shoot thinning and second set removal performed as required. Fruit selection is based on ripeness levels and flavour.

WINEMAKING

Blended from the best blocks in our estate vineyard, that have been carefully managed to ensure optimum ripeness along with extra concentration to allow for a long, gentle maturation once bottled. Each block was fermented then matured in oak barrels as stand alone parcels. After at least 12 months initial maturation, each individual barrel was tasted and scored with only the best making the cut for The Navigator. After extensive bench trialling a blend was put together that not only expresses the best of the vintage but also is a true reflection of our unique terroir in the Bridge Pa Triangle.

As always Merlot plays the lead role at 34% of The Navigator blend, giving body, richness and a plump roundness to the mid palate. A warm vintage has allowed greater use of Cabernet Sauvignon giving structure, length and longevity but also adding to the important freshness of the blend. Cabernet Franc adds elegance and gently herbal perfume. A good splash of Malbec gives highlights of floral violet and boysenberry aroma, deepening the colour with purple hues.

Merlot 34%, Cabernet Sauvignon 31%, Cabernet Franc 19%, Malbec 16%

TASTING NOTE

Softly concentrated with deep and dense aromas of plush red plum, berry fruits, hints of blackcurrant, cocoa, spice and cedar. Each variety contributes to an exquisitely varied array of aroma and great depth of flavour. The palate is medium-full bodied, rich with layers of succulent fruit and charry oak flavours.

Time in bottle will yield further depth of flavour and a wonderful melding of fruit, oak, texture, and moreish spice.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS AT BOTTLING

pH	3.59
Total acidity	5.6 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

