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COLERAINE 1986

Coleraine derives its name from the Coleraine vineyard, home of John & Wendy Buck of Te Mata Estate. John's late grandfather came from Coleraine in Northern Ireland and the name has been maintained through the family properties to the wine.

1986 Coleraine Cabernet/Merlot is a blend of 73% Cabernet Sauvignon, 24% Merlot and 3% Cabernet Franc.

The growing season leading up to the 1986 harvest consisted of a wet winter and early spring, followed by a hot dry summer, leading to high sugars (23-24°Brix), and therefore a wine of generous alcohol (a little over 13% at bottling).

The grapes were hand-harvested, destemmed, crushed and fermented in 8 tonne lots, peaking at 29°C. The must was both pumped over and plunged during primary fermentation. After dryness, the wine had a further 13 days on skins and was then matured in French barriques (60% new) for a further 18 months prior to bottling.

'86 Coleraine is very typical of the year. It has aromas of cherry and raspberry, supported by cedary oak. It shows richness and length on the palate and is a supple medium term (6-8 years from vintage) style of wine.

Technical Analysis at bottling:

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| pH | 3.50 |
| Total acidity as tartaric | 5.8gpl |
| Alcohol | 13.0% |

