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COLERAINE CABERNET/MERLOT 1999

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.

The grapes for Coleraine Cabernet/Merlot 1999 were hand harvested between the 24th March and the 8th April. They were destemmed and crushed, underwent a warm, plunged fermentation and were then macerated on skins for an extended period. Following pressing and malolactic fermentation, the individual wines were aged in 225 litre French oak casks for nineteen months. During this time the wines were periodically topped and raked, then blended and egg white fined.

1999 Coleraine Cabernet/Merlot has a dark ruby colour, aromas of black olives, licorice, herbs and wood smoke with a palate showing the same spicy, complex characters and a long, firm finish.

1999 Coleraine Cabernet/Merlot is a blend of 51% Cabernet Sauvignon, 43% Merlot and 6% Cabernet Franc. It will continue to develop in bottle for 7-10 years from harvest.

It is a natural partner to casseroles, roasted and grilled meats, cheese, pasta and delicatessen meats.

Technical Analysis at bottling:

pH	3.71
Total acidity as tartaric	5.5gpl
Alcohol	13.5%
Bottle barcode	9418953107997

