



Est. 1896

ESTABLISHED IN 1896, TE MATA ESTATE IS NEW ZEALAND'S OLDEST WINERY
AND REMAINS FAMILY OWNED, PRODUCING INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED WINES
EXCLUSIVELY FROM ITS HAWKES BAY VINEYARDS.

2005 Vintage Report

2005 has been a vintage of the highest quality, where the mid-summer weather provided ideal conditions. The wines have now all finished fermentation and are currently undergoing maturation. Of particular note are the late ripening Bordeaux varieties, the flavours of which appear to have responded wonderfully to the January heat. At this early stage, these wines look as good as any vintage we can recall, including '98 or '00.

Spring was dry with normal temperature and timing creating an even flowering period that provided average crops yields with small berries. Summer provided a period of nearly three months of settled, hot, dry weather which was the defining quality factor for the vintage. Harvest began on 9th March with nicely ripe white grapes. The weather was unsettled over the harvest period and rain on the 17th delayed picking for a week, however the vineyards quickly dried out and the quality of the grapes remained exceptional. The reds had formed their tannins and colour in abundance and with good management we hung end block out and took calculated risks where appropriate to bring them all to maximum maturity. Picking finished on 2nd May, completing the longest harvest in Te Mata Estate's history.