



Michael Cooper's Buyer's Guide

FEBRUARY 2023

Coleraine '21



Breed, rather than brute power, is the hallmark of Coleraine (correctly pronounced Cole-raine rather than Coler-aine), which since its first vintage in 1982 has carved out an illustrious reputation among New Zealand's claret-style reds. In all vintages since 2007, Cabernet Sauvignon has been the predominant variety. At its best, it is a magical Hawke's Bay wine, with a depth, complexity and subtlety on the level of a top-class Bordeaux. The grapes are grown and hand-picked in the Havelock North hills, in the company's warm, north-facing Buck and 1892 vineyards, and the wine is matured for 16 to 20 months in French oak barriques, predominantly new. The very elegant, beautifully poised 2021 vintage (5★) is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon (56 per cent), Merlot (32 per cent) and Cabernet Franc (12 per cent). Highly refined, it is deeply coloured and mouthfilling, with fresh, notably concentrated blackcurrant, plum and spice flavours, hints of herbs and nuts, lovely complexity and a lasting finish. Best drinking 2026+.

Super Classic

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