

Robert Parker

WINE ADVOCATE

Erin Larkin, December 2023

Awatea '22

95+/100

This is routinely a superb wine, svelte and supple. The smaller sibling to the magnificent Coleraine, the 2022 Awatea Cabernets / Merlot is composed of 44% Merlot, 42% Cabernet Sauvignon and 14% Cabernet Franc. This is approximately 30% new French oak, the same barrel regime as Coleraine prior to selections. I love smelling Cabernet—a great one can make you smile. I'm smiling right now. There's raspberry pip, nori, dried herbs (thyme, lavender, etc.), white flowers, coal dust, star anise, licorice ... I could go on. The palate is shaped by ductile, ferruginous tannins, which contribute a bloody purity. It's a sensational wine, grossly underpriced, and it is an absolute pleasure to drink. Do not delay.

**A sensational wine ...
grossly underpriced.**

Te MATA
ESTATE 1896

