



## 2006 SV HAWKES BAY SYRAH 'CHALK RIDGE'

### Winemakers Notes

This wine is from our new Chalk Ridge block, just to the south of Havelock North. It is a steep, north-facing amphitheatre that is strewn with fossilised limestone. We only use the ripest fruit from the top of the hill to craft our SV Syrah. A small amount of Viognier (2.68%) from the same block was co-fermented with the Syrah to add fragrance and complexity and to help fix the colour. Vintage 2006 was a stunner and the vineyard was in excellent condition at harvest. The wine spent almost 14 months in French oak (50% new) before assemblage. We gave the wine a light egg white fining before bottling.

### Analysis

Alc 13.5 %      Acid 6.0 g/L      Res Sugar 2g/L      pH 3.65

### Tasting Notes

Colour: A beautiful deep purple/red, with a dense, dark core and bright, flashing purple rim.

Bouquet: The essence of Hawkes Bay Syrah: masses of black fruits, a touch of pepper, some meatiness and lovely, savoury oak.

Palate: A beautifully structured wine. Medium to full bodied with silken tannins and great length. The fruit in the mid palate lasts and lasts.

### Cellaring

Already approachable, but we expect this wine to cellar for a number of years.

### Food Matches

The soft tannins, ripe fruit flavours, black pepper and spice make this wine a great accompaniment to many meat dishes such as lamb, venison, beef and game. The bolder and more complex style means that it will stand up to richer flavours and accompaniments.

### Suggested Wine List Description

A rich and full-bodied wine full of jammy fruit with lashings of black pepper and a long savoury finish.

### Awards

**ELITE GOLD** - Air NZ Wine Awards 2007

**5 STARS - 95Pts** - Wine Orbit review, Sam Kim, Dec 2007

*"This is a striking young Syrah displaying sumptuous plums and cherries with cream on the nose. It's succulent and flowing beautifully on the palate with fresh acidity and ripe, bold tannins. The wine is opulent, yet the firm structure holds it in a nice, tight frame"*