

“The Obsidian” Bordeaux Blend 2008 Waiheke Island

REGION

Variety: Cabernet Sauvignon 38%, Merlot 30%, Cabernet Franc 14%, Petit Verdot 12%, Malbec 6%
Region: Onetangi Valley, Obsidian Vineyard, Planted 9 Ha, 1993 Waiheke Island, Auckland, NZ

VINTAGE 2008

Picking date(s): Hand picked between 25 March - 23 April 2008
Growing conditions: A warm settled spring was followed by one of the warmest and driest summers on record, allowing outstanding flavour development.

VINIFICATION

The smallest batches were fermented in open top fermenters with twice daily plunging. The larger batches were handled in traditional Bordeaux style fermenters with twice daily pumpovers. The parcels were pressed to tank, and allowed to settle overnight before being transferred to oak for malolactic fermentation. The wine remained in oak until June 2009.

Oak Treatment: 30% New French, 70% Seasoned French

APPEARANCE

Deeply coloured in the glass, with a dense dark core.

BOUQUET

The nose is complex and offers darkest plums and cassis with floral hints and classy oak.

PALATE

The palate shows great concentration and depth of flavour. This is a well structured wine with layered tannins and rich fruit that lingers a long time.

CELLARING

Drink now or suitable for cellaring up to 10 years

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Winemaker: Michael Wood
Bottled: June 2009, 395 Dozen
Alcohol: 14%
Residual sugar: N/A
Titrateable Acidity: 6.2 g/l
pH: 3.60
Packaging: 6 x 750 ml
Closure: Cork



ACCOLADES

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (5 Stars)

“Looking set for a decade, but already approachable, this powerful Waiheke Island, claret-style red is based primarily on cabernet sauvignon (38%) and merlot (30%). Dark and rich, with dense, ripe flavours of blackcurrants, plum and spices. A top vintage.”

Michael Cooper, Winestate Magazine, Recent Releases, July/Aug 2010 & Michael Cooper’s NZ Wine Buyers Guide 2011.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (5 Stars)

“This is striking and very, very impressive. A youthful wine displaying cassis, dark plum, dried herb and subtle oak characters on the nose. The palate is concentrated and focused, but not heavy, showing fine texture and firm, chalky tannins. The wine is superbly structured and has so much potential. This is one of the best Bordeaux-style reds of the vintage and should be in every serious collector’s cellar. At its best: 2012 to 2022.”

Sam Kim, Wine Orbit, Issue 11, 2010

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (5 Stars)

“Bigger, richer than the 09 dark and red fruits plus oak. Riper and longer. Intense with good power. Approachable but with obvious potential.”

Bob Campbell MW, www.bobswinereviews.com, Feb 2011

ACCOLADES CON'T

19/20 Points

“Very dark, deep, ruby red with purple hues, this had a restrained bouquet of cassis, liquorice and dark fruits, lifted by a floral note. On palate, there was richness, depth and concentration of red and black berry fruits framed within a classically structured extraction and good fresh acidity. This is a soberly defined wine with very good length, albeit somewhat closed at present. It should develop well over the next decade.”

Raymond Chan, *Regional Wines*, 27 July 2010