

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STARTS

MILLS REEF WINS TROPHY AT AIR NEW ZEALAND WINE AWARDS

Mills Reef's flagship Elspeth Cabernet Merlot 2007 received high honours last Saturday evening at New Zealand's national wine show, the Air New Zealand Wine Awards, receiving the Trophy for 'Rabobank Champion Cabernet Sauvignon or Merlot/Cabernet Blend'.

The trophy win brings huge satisfaction for the Mills Reef winemaking team, their winning wine having been judged against wines from New Zealand's most respected Bordeaux-red producers, across three outstanding vintages of 2005 to 2007. "It's a tremendous endorsement for Mills Reef, the finalist wines were all extremely impressive and worthy contenders", says Mills Reef chief winemaker Tim Preston.

Interestingly, all wines awarded gold medal in the Bordeaux-varietal reds classes were grown in the renowned Gimblett Gravels, reflecting the district's eminent suitability to these varieties.

The trophy winning Elspeth Gimblett Gravels Cabernet Merlot was handcrafted from grapes grown in the winery's acclaimed Mere Road Vineyard, which has garnered an enviable track record for gold and trophy winning wines over the past fifteen years.

Other notable Mills Reef results at the wine awards included an 'Elite Gold' for its Mills Reef Elspeth Syrah 2007, an endorsement bestowed upon wines scoring higher than 19 out of 20 points in judging, recognizing the wine's exceptional quality.

ENDS

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