

MILLSREEF

ELSPETH

One

2000

Mills Reef Elspeth One is a wine that has been years in the planning. It is our flagship wine and is the ultimate expression of our dedication to excellence.

For nearly eight years the Mills Reef winemaking team of Paddy and Tim Preston have been experimenting with producing an “ultimate blend”. The result is Elspeth One, a blend of red Bordeaux varieties with the addition of Syrah.

The starting point for this top international wine was the early 1990s purchase of a special vineyard in the premium grape-growing region of Gimblett Gravels in Hawkes Bay, New Zealand.

The site was chosen for its gravel soils, hot, dry climate and potential to produce outstanding wines. Elspeth One 2000 is made from densely planted, low yielding vines in our Mere Road vineyard and is a blend of Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Syrah, Malbec and Cabernet Sauvignon adding richness and harmony. The introduction of Syrah grapes has provided the Elspeth One blend with a special New World twist.

A long ripening period for the 2000 vintage has produced layers of flavours, with the winemakers confident the 2000 vintage is the best yet seen from the Gimblett Gravels appellation.

A hands-on, no expense spared approach has been taken to produce Elspeth One 2000. Grapes from our boutique-size vineyard were all hand harvested, destemmed and fermented in stainless steel vats. The wine was then aged in new French oak barriques for 18 months. Careful selection of oak is a key feature of the wine’s success. Only the very best barrels of wine were selected and blended to produce a limited volume of this very stylish and harmonious blend.

The end result is a powerful, rich wine distinguished by its concentrated flavours and complex palate. This special blend displays brambly, berryish and spicy characteristics with a foundation of ripe tannins. It has excellent potential and will reward cellaring.

Vintage:	2000
Grape Variety:	Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Malbec, Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon
Growing Area:	Hawkes Bay
Vineyard:	Mere Road Gimblett Gravels
Winemakers:	Paddy Preston, Tim Preston
Brix at Harvest:	24 average
Juice Acidity:	7
Wine Acidity:	6.6