

COLERAINE 2009

100 MUST-TRY NEW ZEALAND WINES

Michael Cooper

One of New Zealand's most prestigious reds, with a pedigree stretching back to the early 1980s. Coleraine is a magical wine with an intensity, complexity and subtlety on the level of a top-class Bordeaux.

WINE ORBIT

Sam Kim, Issue 11, March 2011

5 Stars & 98 Points

2007 Coleraine is a hard act to follow, but at the time of release I hoped that a future Coleraine would surpass this profound wine. And the team at Te Mata have managed just that, so soon. The 2009 vintage was an exceptional year in the Hawke's Bay - it was the hottest growing season in ten years, and the second driest since 1980. As you would expect, 2009 Coleraine is a restrained beauty, perfectly poised and supremely discreet. It's youthful yet gloriously complex on the nose displaying dark plum, blueberry, spice, cocoa, dried herb and elegantly infused cedary oak characters. The palate is superbly concentrated and dense, yet not heavy, showing fleshy texture and loads of fine, chalky tannins. The finish is extremely long and marked by fruit richness and classic firmness. A wine of great presence and definition. Yes, this is indeed a whisper better than the exceptional 2007 Coleraine (even though the same score is given), making this the greatest New Zealand wine ever made. 2009 Coleraine is a blend of 52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 43% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Franc, and was matured in predominantly new French oak barrels for 20 months. At its best: 2020 to 2032.

ROBERT PARKERS WINE ADVOCATE

Neal Martin, Issue 191, October 2010

95-95 points

Blackberry, dark chocolate, a touch of sloe and liquorice. The finesse is there on the long, languid finish. A masculine Coleraine with great intensity and promise for the future.

THE LISTENER

Michael Cooper, March 2011

5 Stars

A dense, concentrated but not heavy red with a lovely array of cassis, plum, spice and nut flavours, yet to fully unfold. In terms of its elegance, tightness of structure and longterm potential, it reminded me of a top Margaux.

BOBSWINERREVIEWS.COM

Bob Campbell MW, February 2011

97/100, 5 Stars

Dense, powerful red with classic Cabernet Sauvignon characters dominating to give the wine a cassis, floral and sweet mint character. Lovely juicy fruit gives accessibility. Will age magnificently. Coleraine doesn't get much better than this.

KIA ORA MAGAZINE

Bob Campbell MW , May 2011

Hawkes Bays best blended red... Dense, powerful red with classic cabernet sauvignon characters including cassis, floral and sweet mint flavours. Lovely juicy fruit gives accessibility. Should age magnificently. I rate it best ever.

WWW.WINEOFTHEWEEK.COM

Sue Courtney, February 2011

Outstanding

The aroma of chocolate, rose petals and fruitcake is complex and intriguing. A huge wine, soft from the beginning, liquorice, concentrated primary fruit, florals, leather and cedar. A monumental wine with powerful mouth-coating tannins but the huge whack of fruit makes them seem deceptively smooth. The finish is savoury and long with a fruit sweetness lingering.

REGIONAL WINES & SPIRITS

Anto Coates, March 2011

19.5+/20

A boysenberry, dark purple colour with even more complexity than the 2007. The nose is perfect and the palate has a new level of flavours not seen in any of the preceding wines: licorice, pepper and spice, to complement the truly classical notes of blackcurrants, bramble and cedar.

RAYMONDCHANWINEREVIEWS.CO.NZ

Raymond Chan, March 2011

19.5/20

Deep purple black-red in colour, this has a somewhat shy, raw and youthfully tight bouquet, quite ethereal and aromatic with ripe dark red berry fruit and plums and violetty florals showing. The palate features sweet, rich, near exotic red and black fruits on a very powerful, concentrated, highly extracted framework. The tannins are very fine, leaving a feeling of tight restraint and style. The finish is long and nuanced.