



Est. 1896

ESTABLISHED IN 1896, TE MATA ESTATE IS NEW ZEALAND'S OLDEST WINERY AND REMAINS FAMILY OWNED, PRODUCING INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED WINES EXCLUSIVELY FROM ITS HAWKES BAY VINEYARDS.

2002 Vintage Report

Vintage 2002 was the longest harvest in Te Mata's history. It began on Friday 15th March and finished, after nearly 7 weeks of picking, on Wednesday 1st May. It was a high quality growing season albeit with an unusual pattern. An early and warm spring progressed to a humid summer, and a very long, warm and dry autumn. The major feature was the "on-vine time" where the magnificent end of the season weather allowed each parcel of each variety to be harvested at optimum flavour ripeness.

The white wines are true to form with Hawkes Bay's characteristically ripe flavours, good concentration, acidity and length.

In evaluating the quality of the red wines it is important to note that as harvest at Te Mata finished later than normal these red wines are very difficult to comment on at this stage (June 2002). That said the fruit was harvested in magnificent condition, the colours look good, there are abundant tannins, and the potential appears very high. We will provide greater detail once the reds have settled down more and we have had the time to evaluate them.

2002 In Brief: Long harvest period, high quality growing season but an unusual pattern. Early warm spring, humid summer, very long warm and dry autumn with a long "on-vine time" giving optimum flavour ripeness.