



# MAN O' WAR

## WARSPITE 2012

**BLEND** 60% Cabernet Franc, 30% Merlot & 10% Malbec

**HARVEST DATE** 08/04/12 - 20/04/12

**BRIX AT HARVEST** 26.2 - 27

**BARREL** 45% new French oak, 55% old French oak

**T.A** 5.2

**PH** 3.95

**ALC** 15%

**VINEYARDS** Ponui Island



## VINTAGE, VINEYARD & CELLAR NOTES

The season began with an early flowering and a good fruit set but it was quite cool throughout the summer months. Leading into harvest there were a number of cyclonic weather events which we narrowly avoided but it made for a nervous start to the vintage. Then in early March the skies cleared and we enjoyed two months of fine settled weather that made the latest vintage in our history one of our greatest yet.

With our Warspite grapes grown on neighbouring Ponui Island we are required to wait for a favourable tide to allow for the equipment and pickers to be taken across the water to harvest throughout the day. Once completed the fruit is brought back in on the incoming tide and we process throughout the night to make the bins available for the follow days picking.

After gentle de-stemming the grapes underwent a 'wild' fermentation in the vat and spent 30 days on skins with gentle plunging or pumping over of the juice to keep the skins fresh. The various parcels were then pressed off together to form the blend and aged in barrel for 20 months before bottling.

## TASTING NOTES

The 2012 Warspite is the second release of this wine. It is very generously proportioned with a supple palate and is densely packed with fine tannins and an abundance of sweet red berry fruit with hints of cooking spice.

Approximately 60% Cabernet Franc, 30% Merlot & 10% Malbec the 2012 Warspite exhibits the wonderful traits of Cabernet Franc dominant wine, that is a wine of density and concentration but firmly anchored in the red berry fruit spectrum typically associated with lighter wines.

## WARSPITE

One of a new class of "fast" battleships when launched and blessed with a thrilling combination of elegance and power, Warspite is entirely sourced from our Ponui Island vineyards and emulates the graceful power of the Royal Navy's "Grand Old Dame".



This wine is bottled and protected under screw cap as we believe it is the best closure for quality wine.

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