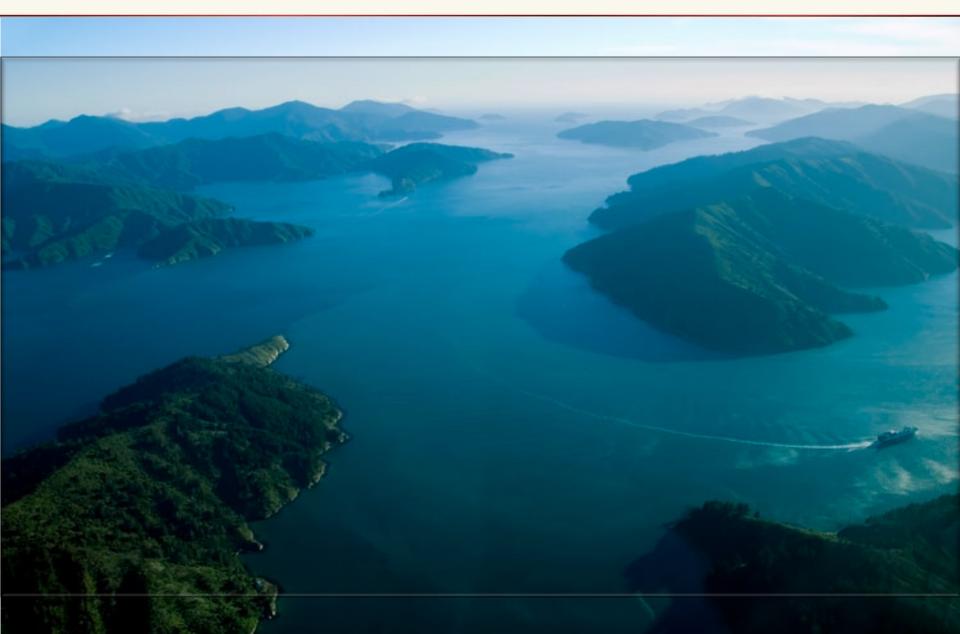


VILLA MARIA New Zealand

NEW ZEALAND'S MOST AWARDED WINERY

villamaria.co.nz







- » New Zealand's Most Awarded Winery Unrelenting focus on growing the best fruit & produce top-quality award winning wines for over 35 years
- » 100% New Zealand & Family Owned by the Fistonich family, no shareholders
- Innovation Villa Maria is recognised for innovation, 100% screwcaps since 2001, we produce Arneis, Albarino, Sauvignon Blanc Lightly Sparkling, Lower Alcohol wines
- Sustainability As a family company, the desire to leave something for the next generation is an ever present and overriding business objective



τĐ



- » **1939** George Fistonich was born
- » **1961** George & Gail started Villa Maria Estate
- » Late 60's Villa Maria's Wine Club Food/Wine pairing
- » 1976 Purchase Vidal Estate
- » 1987 Purchase Esk Valley Estate
- » 1987 Export commenced
- *** 1995** Founding member Sustainable Winegrowing NZ
- » 2000 Marlborough Winery opened
- » 2005 Auckland Winery & Vineyard park opened
- » 2005 Purchase Thornbury Wines
- » 2009 Sir George knighthed as true pioneer for the New Zealand wine industry
- » 2012 Purchase Te Awa Estate
- » 2012 50 years exceptional winemaking celebrations
- » 2015 New Zealand's Most Awarded Winery over 35 years







Innovation "If you're standing still you might as well be going backwards. You have to keep moving to stay on top of the game" – Sir George





Media Release



VILLA MARIA

5TH March 2015

S



Villa Maria named fourth most admired wine brand in the world and first in New Zealand.

Today, Drinks International, one of the most trusted and respected global drink journals, named Villa Maria as the fourth most admired wine brand in the world, the only New Zealand winery to make the top 10 list. More than 200 of the world's top masters of wine, sommeliers, educators and journalists took part in the annual poll, which pits wine brands from all regions, styles and qualities against each other.

The Academy of Masters of Wine, sommeliers, educators and journalists were tasked with critiquing and recognising the 'Most Admired Wine Brands' in the world and measured against the following list:

- The wine should be of consistent or improving quality
- It should reflect its region or country of origin
- It should respond to the needs and tastes of its target audience
- It should be well marketed and packaged
- It should have strong appeal to a wide demographic



Holly Motion, editor of the World's Most Admired Wine Brands said: "The Academy is no longer turning to new brands, but rather drawing from a pool of established names that have proven themselves to be consistent, respected global leaders."

Sir George Fistonich, Founder and CEO of Villa Maria Estate, was elated with the accolade. "To be number one in New Zealand and fourth in the world is truly phenomenal, especially considering there is estimated to be over 100,000 wineries globally. It's such amazing recognition for Villa Maria as well as New Zealand. New Zealand is a very young wine producing country so to achieve fourth place, in such a prestigious competition, with old world leaders such as Torres, Château d'Yquem and Château Margaux is a huge source of pride. I'm incredibly proud."

Here at Villa Maria, our story is simple. It began with one man's love of wine and grew into a dream that culminated in becoming New Zealand's most awarded winery. It's a story of absolute passion, determination and vision.

---END ----

Read more here:

http://www.drinksint.com/news/fullstorv.php/aid/5246/Torres named World s Most Admir ed Wine Brand.html

The top 10 wine brands:

1) Torres (Spain) 2) Vega Sicilia (Spain) 3) Penfolds (Australia) 4) Villa Maria (New Zealand) 5) Château d'Yquem (France) 6) Casillero del Diablo (Chile)
7) Ridge (USA)
8) Château Margaux (France)
9) Guigal (France)
10) Cono Sur (Chile)

New Zealand's Most Awarded Winery



- » 4th Most Admired Wine Brand in the world and 1st in New Zealand Drinks Business International (2015)
- » One of the World's 50 Great Wine Producers Wine Spectator Magazine (USA – 2004)
- » One of the World's 50 Most Admired Brands Drinks International Magazine (UK – 2012)
- » New Zealand Wine Company of the Year The 2013 award marked the 13th time in 16 years – Winestate Magazine (AUS – 2013)
- New World Winery of the Year
 Wine Enthusiast Magazine (USA 2007)
- » New Zealand Wine Producer of the Year International Wine & Spirit Competition (UK – 2009, 2007, 2006 & 2004)
- » Sir George Fistonich, member of the New Zealand Wine Hall of Fame "This company really understands quality and value." Oz Clarke, Bristish Wine Writer, television presenter & broadcaster

Sustainability



"As a family company, the desire to leave something for the next generation is an ever present and overriding business objective" – George Fistonich











"We source the best grapes from around the country for our award-winning wines." George Fistonich





Auckland Winery





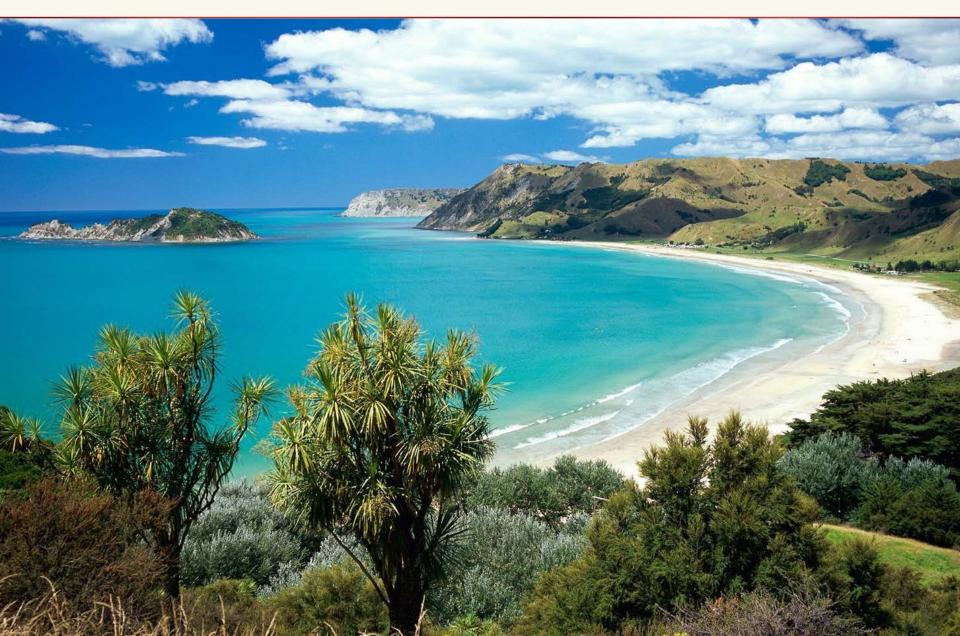
Auckland





Gisborne





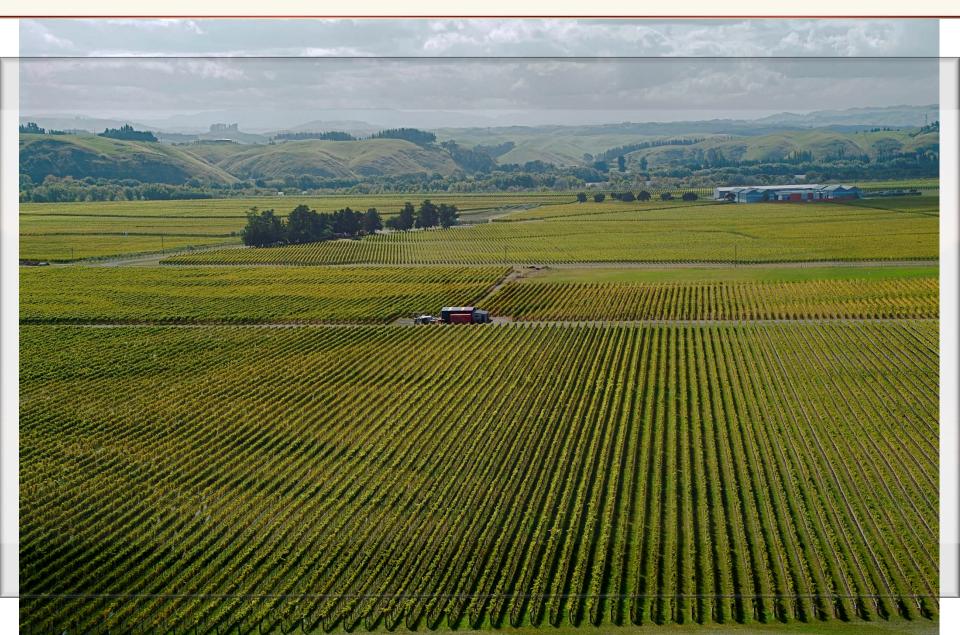






Hawke's Bay – The Gimblett Gravels





Hawke's Bay



"Not just a very special parcel, it is a sacred site" – James Halliday



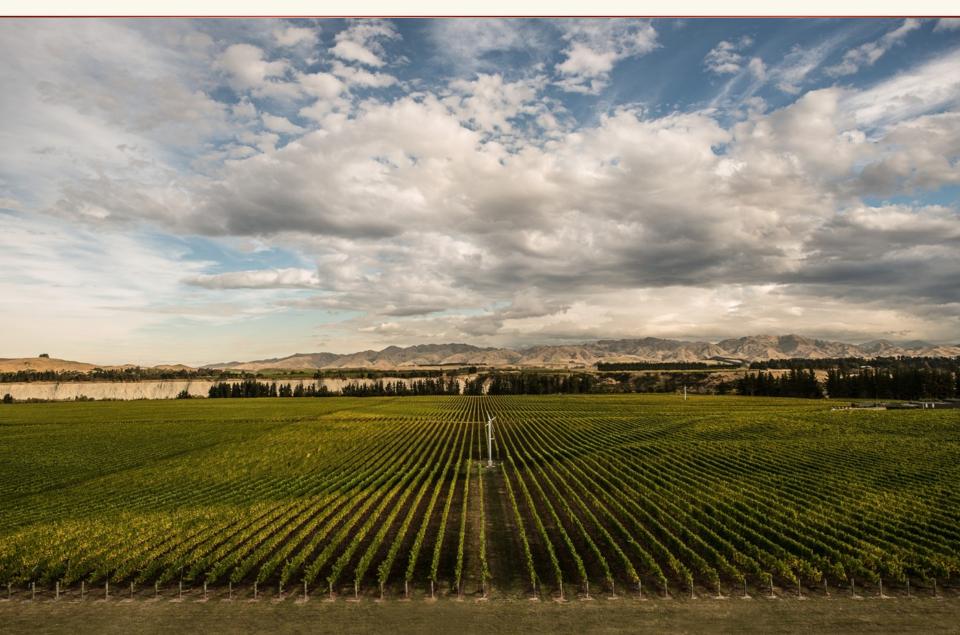
Marlborough Winery





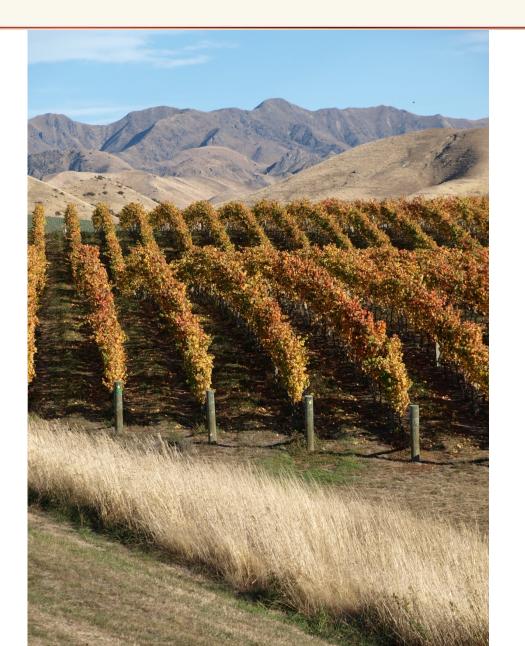
Marlborough





Central Otago





THE VILLA MARIA FAMILY

PRIVATE BIN Approachable, consistent and

excellent value.

CELLAR SELECTION Intensely flavoured, elegant, food-friendly wine.

RESERVE Exceptional quality, award-winning wines.

SINGLE VINEYARD

Individual vineyard expression from unique sites.











Be transported to our vineyards

Download our Virtual Vineyard App



Visit New Zealand's key wine growing regions and discover Villa Maria's spectacular vineyards in Marlborough, Hawkes Bay, Gisborne and Auckland.

Explore 360 degree views of the vineyards and unlock additional harvest videos via hotspots.

A must have free app for wine lovers and New Zealand enthusiasts made by New Zealand's Most Awarded Winery!



Keep in touch!



» Facebook

www.facebook.com/villamariawine

» Twitter:

www.twitter.com/villamaria_Euro

» Pinterest

www.pinterest.com/villamaria

» LinkedIn

www.linkedin.com/company/villa-maria-estate

» YouTube

www.youtube.com/user/VillaMariaWine

» Instagram

www.instagram.com/villamariawines



www.villamaria.co.nz



