



# DESTINY BAY

DESTINAE  
TASTING NOTES



*Destiny Bay Vineyards  
Waiheke Island*

*Hawkes Bay*

*Martinborough*

*Marlborough*

*Central Otago*

### Temperature & Decanting

Minor temperature changes dramatically impact the flavour and aroma of wine. Our wine should be served between 15-18°C. It is better to err on the side of 'too cool' rather than 'too warm.' Additionally, the practice of uncorking, decanting and allowing the wine to breathe prior to serving is essential. We recommend allowing our wine to breathe for thirty minutes and up to a few hours. Typically, the older the wine, the less time it needs to breathe prior to serving.

### “Prime” or “Season” your Decanter/Glasses

We recommend you “Prime”, or “Season”, your wine glasses/decanter before pouring a full glass. This simple process can remove any dust, cardboard smells, or residual dishwashing detergent that could hinder/alter the aromatics of the wine. Simply pour ~1-2 teaspoons of wine into your glass/decanter and slowly roll the wine around the glass to coat the entire surface. This wine can be poured into the next glass and repeated. Discard or drink this wine and then pour as usual.

### Cellar Temperature & Storage

Wine should be stored horizontally in dark conditions of 12-15° Celsius and ~70% humidity. Temperatures above 15°C can lead to premature ageing. If you do not have a wine cellar, a low point in your home that is cool and stable in temperature is a good alternative. Never store fine wine in a rack above the refrigerator or stove, or in direct sunlight.

### Initial Ageing

Destiny Bay bottle-ages your wines prior to release to ensure they can be enjoyed when you receive them. How long to age a wine is often a matter of personal preference and many of our collectors enjoy our wines at all stages of their evolution. Typically, a bottle opened in the first few years will offer more fruit forward notes while further ageing will soften the tannins and develop more complex tertiary aromas. Our recommendation is to try one of your wines a few months after receiving it to allow it to “rest” from its journey to your cellar and assess how its evolution meets your personal preference. There is no right or wrong answer and this is part of the journey and enjoyment of cellaring a fine wine.

### Cork Closures

Our research has shown that wines show significant improvement in bottle ageing when sealed with natural cork rather than a screw-cap or a synthetic cork. We use the highest quality corks available, but problems can still arise. If one of our wines exhibits cork taint please contact us at +64 9 600-2050 or [collector@destinybay.co.nz](mailto:collector@destinybay.co.nz) to request a replacement bottle or credit and obtain information about what to do with the wine.

### Sediment/Deposits

Destiny Bay wine is minimally filtered. During cellaring and maturation of the wine, deposits and sediments will form in the bottle. These can be removed by decanting the wine prior to serving.



# DESTINY BAY

DESTINAE

2021

Estate Bottled

Wine of New Zealand

37% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot,  
14% Cabernet Franc, 12% Malbec,  
4% Petit Verdot

Grown, Produced and Bottled By  
Destiny Bay Wines

379 Gordons Road, Waiheke Island

**Vintage Detail:** A mild winter made for an early start to the season followed by an exceptionally dry and warm flowering and fruitset. Veraison to harvest had optimal rainfall before a warm dry period led to an early harvest.

**Vinified Tonnage/Acre:** 2.0 - 2.2 tonnes

**Avg. Brix:** 24.8

**Maturation:** ~12 months in 60% French Oak & 40% American Oak

**Cooperage:** 40% new barrels, 60% 1-2 year barrels

**Cases Produced:** ~560

**Alcohol:** 14.5%

## WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES:

Concentrated dark fruit aromatics pop out of the glass with notes of blackberry and blackcurrant while plum and cherry lurk underneath. The wine then reveals peppery Cabernet typicity with graphite, floral and incense. Deeply coloured, this Destinae shows excellent concentration, yet is still sweet and plump. This particular vintage feels like it leans more towards California than Bordeaux. The slightly higher percentage of French Oak this year provides some drive and sweetness while the American Oak supports a lush and long finish. While a structured and brooding Destinae, it still has a relaxed quality similar to 2015 and 2019.

**ENJOY FROM:** 4-12+ years from vintage.



# DESTINY BAY

DESTINAE

2020

Estate Bottled  
 Wine of New Zealand  
 38% Cabernet Sauvignon, 38% Merlot,  
 10% Malbec, 9% Cabernet Franc,  
 5% Petit Verdot

Grown, Produced and Bottled By  
 Destiny Bay Wines  
 379 Gordons Road, Waiheke Island

**Vintage Detail:** A cold and windy start followed by a warm and dry spring and exceptional conditions from flowering to harvest. Above average temperatures, sunshine and record low rainfall from January - April.

**Vinified Tonnage/Acre:** 2.0 - 2.4 tonnes

**Avg. Brix:** 24.6

**Maturation:** ~12 months in 60% French Oak & 40% American Oak

**Cooperage:** 35% new barrels, 65% 1-2 year barrels

**Cases Produced:** ~725

**Alcohol:** 14.2%

## WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES:

In the glass, this wine shows great depth of colour with red and blue tinged qualities. Aromatically, the wine expresses the warm, bright conditions of this vintage. Notes of dark blue and red fruits are layered with hints of licorice. The targeted use of French and American oak offers hints of cedar, clove and a touch of smoke. After an initial burst of fruit, a persistent layer of fine-grained tannins leads to a long and generous finish. Likely the most structured Destinae to date, this timeless wine, while approachable upon release, will surely benefit from an extra year or two in the cellar.

**ENJOY FROM:** 4-12+ years from vintage.



# DESTINY BAY

DESTINAE

2019

Estate Bottled

Wine of New Zealand

43% Cabernet Sauvignon, 39% Merlot,  
9% Malbec, 6% Cabernet Franc,  
3% Petit Verdot

Grown, Produced and Bottled By  
Destiny Bay Wines  
379 Gordons Road, Waiheke Island

**Vintage Detail:** Warm spring with moderate rainfall, hot & dry through to veraison, above average temperatures & sunshine and below average rain post-veraison.

**Vinified Tonnage/Acre:** 1.3 - 2.0 tonnes

**Avg. Brix:** 24.4

**Maturation:** ~12 months in 55% French Oak & 45% American Oak

**Cooperage:** 35% new barrels, 65% 1-2 year barrels

**Cases Produced:** ~700

**Alcohol:** 13.9%

## WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES:

A lovely deep, red, colour in the glass gives this wine a classic Claret appearance. The aromatics are expressive of the bright, sunny conditions of the 2019 vintage with a diverse composition of berry fruits that cross the spectrum from black, to blue, to red fruits. Underneath the inviting fruit notes is a touch of lavender and cinnamon before the Cabernet Sauvignon lifts out of the background. The palate is highly polished and bright while remaining generous and mouth-coating before it leaves a long finish that is reminiscent of Cherries Jubilee. A classic Destinae upon release, it promises a long life in the cellar and truly captures the essence of the stunning 2019 vintage.

**ENJOY FROM:** 4-12+ years from vintage.



# DESTINY BAY

DESTINAE

2018

Estate Bottled

Wine of New Zealand

37% Cabernet Sauvignon, 28% Merlot,  
22% Malbec, 8% Cabernet Franc,  
5% Petit Verdot

Grown, Produced and Bottled By  
Destiny Bay Wines  
379 Gordons Road, Waiheke Island

**Vintage Detail:** Hot & dry spring through to veraison,  
above average temperatures & rainfall post-veraison.

**Vinified Tonnage/Acre:** 1.1 - 1.6 tonnes

**Avg. Brix:** 23.8

**Maturation:** ~12 months in 55% French Oak &  
45% American Oak

**Cooperage:** 35% new barrels, 65% 1-2 year barrels

**Cases Produced:** ~880

**Alcohol:** 13.4%

## WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES:

A scarlet colour in the glass gives this wine a classic Claret appearance. The aromatic profile shows floral and blueberry notes with tinges of white pepper, and lavender. The hint of musk expressing from the Cabernet Franc indicates that complex tertiary aromatics are in this wine's future. On the first taste, at this young age, the wine shows a surprising degree of blue fruit notes followed up with summer berries. Acidity is well-tempered, but gives the wine a clean drive through the mid-palate before expressing notes of anise and good Cabernet typicity. Overall the palate is supple and gives warmth from restrained French and American oak. Expect this Destinae to develop complexity and depth beginning in it's 3rd-4th year.

**ENJOY FROM:** 4-10+ years from vintage.



# DESTINY BAY

DESTINAE

2016

Estate Bottled

Wine of New Zealand

29% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot,  
21% Malbec, 15% Cabernet Franc,  
8% Petit Verdot

Grown, Produced and Bottled By  
Destiny Bay Wines  
379 Gordons Road, Waiheke Island

**Vintage Detail:** Hot & dry spring through to veraison, above average temperatures & rainfall post-veraison followed by dry conditions at harvest.

**Vinified Tonnage/Acre:** 1.1 - 1.6 tonnes

**Avg. Brix:** 23.7

**Maturation:** ~12 months in 55% French Oak & 45% American Oak

**Cooperage:** 35% new barrels, 65% 1-2 year barrels

**Cases Produced:** 279

**Alcohol:** 13.0%

## WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES:

Brilliant ruby red colours put the elegance of this wine on display before the first sip. Aromatically, the wine shows black and white pepper, musk notes from the Cabernet Franc and red berry notes. In choosing near equal portions of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot, this vintage's Destinae shows depth on the mid-palate with cherry spectrum flavours, pepper and blue fruit notes on the finish. The palate is warm and generous with good acidity indicating that it may take just a little more time to develop tertiary complexity than other vintages. After tasting across several days the wine shows great promise to evolve like a graceful dancer.

**ENJOY FROM:** 4-10+ years from vintage.



# DESTINY BAY

DESTINAE

2015

Estate Bottled

Wine of New Zealand

33% Cabernet Sauvignon, 32% Merlot,  
19% Cabernet Franc, 11% Malbec,  
5% Petit Verdot

Grown, Produced and Bottled By  
Destiny Bay Wines  
379 Gordons Road, Waiheke Island

**Vintage Detail:** Warm & dry spring, above average temperatures & sunshine hours with below average precipitation from veraison to harvest.

**Vinified Tonnage/Acre:** 1.4 - 1.8 tonnes

**Brix:** 24.2 - 26.2

**Maturation:** 10 months in 60% French Oak & 40% American Oak

**Cooperage:** 35% new barrels, 65% 1 year barrels

**Cases Produced:** 489

**Alcohol:** 14.5%

## WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES:

Deep scarlet colour and blue tinged, this Destinae appears concentrated on visual appearance alone. The aroma expresses intense berry coulis notes owing to a shorter oak exposure used this vintage. The wine then opens up to express blueberry and subtle pepper notes. On the first taste the forepalate shows blackberry and cherry, but is soon followed by firm and driving Cabernet typicity. Finally, an empty glass and long taste reveals oak characters which are restrained, but support a long finish with touches of graphite, pencil shavings and cocoa. The overall tannin and concentration profile shows that this is a wine which is rewarded by decanting when young and has a very long life ahead of it.

**ENJOY FROM:** 4-15+ years from vintage.



# DESTINY BAY

DESTINAE

2014

Estate Bottled

Wine of New Zealand

36% Cabernet Sauvignon, 26% Merlot,  
18% Malbec, 13% Cabernet Franc,  
7% Petit Verdot

Grown, Produced and Bottled By  
Destiny Bay Wines  
379 Gordons Road, Waiheke Island

**Vintage Detail:** Average temperature and rainfall for spring & above average temperature & sunshine hours for summer through harvest.

**Vinified Tonnage/Acre:** 1.4 - 2.2 tonnes

**Brix:** 24.1 - 26.1

**Maturation:** 10-15 months in 50% French Oak & 50% American Oak

**Cooperage:** 40% new barrels, 60% 1-2 year barrels

**Cases Produced:** 570

**Alcohol:** 14.5%

## WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES:

A deep maroon in colour is complemented with fragrant and peppery aromatics owing to some of the best Cabernet Franc we have ever produced. The nose gives way to luscious dark berry aromas and hints of cocoa. On first taste the palate is rich and broad with vanilla notes that sweeten the mid-palate backed up by restrained oak. While intensely concentrated, the tannins and alcohol balance each other as this bolder vintage of Destinae remains elegant and approachable. Look for raspberry, cherry and musk notes to come forward as this wine evolves in the cellar over a very long life.

**ENJOY FROM:** 4-12+ years from vintage.



# DESTINY BAY

DESTINAE

2013

Estate Bottled  
 Wine of New Zealand  
 38% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot,  
 12% Cabernet Franc, 8% Malbec,  
 6% Petit Verdot

Grown, Produced and Bottled By  
 Destiny Bay Wines  
 379 Gordons Road, Waiheke Island

**Vintage Detail:** Dry and windy spring w/hot and dry summer conditions through harvest.

**Vinified Tonnage/Acre:** 1.8 - 2.0 tonnes

**Brix:** 24 - 25.6

**Maturation:** 10-15 months in 50% French Oak & 50% American Oak

**Cooperage:** 40% new barrels, 60% 1-2 year barrels

**Cases Produced:** 710

**Alcohol:** 14.5%

## WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES:

A deep crimson colour and richly scented, the Destinae offers a great snapshot of the hot and dry conditions that marked the 2013 vintage. Upon its first pour into a glass, notes of dark cherry and berries soon give way to chocolate that is underpinned by floral hints and thyme. On tasting the palate is both rich and textural with a firm mid-palate presence and an impressive tannin structure. The oak is tightly integrated, but there is a refined umami quality from French Oak before 36-month seasoned American Oak carries out a subtle and long finish. Vibrant, structured and accessible, this release of Destinae truly captures the essence of the vineyard and the 2013 vintage as a whole.

**ENJOY FROM:** 4-10+ years from vintage.



# DESTINY BAY

DESTINAE

2012

Estate Bottled

Wine of New Zealand

51% Merlot, 21% Cabernet Sauvignon,  
15% Cabernet Franc, 8% Malbec,  
5% Petit Verdot

Grown, Produced and Bottled By  
Destiny Bay Wines  
379 Gordons Road, Waiheke Island

**Vintage Detail:** Dry and cool spring w/typical summer weather followed by warm dry harvest.

**Vinified Tonnage/Acre:** 1.8 - 2.0 tonnes

**Brix:** 23 - 26.2

**Maturation:** 10-15 months 50% French Oak &  
50% American Oak

**Cooperage:** 40% new barrels, 60% 1-2 year barrels

**Cases Produced:** 720

**Alcohol:** 13.8%

## WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES:

Deep scarlet colour with a violet tinged robe, the 2012 Destinae is true "right bank" in composition owing to the remarkable Merlot in this vintage. The nose is fragrant with floral and peppery notes from the Cabernets in the blend. The wine shows firm structure and leaves a rich coating of fine tannins across the palate that carry through the finish. Perfect oak integration supports the cherry and blackberry characters on the palate and has a savoury quality with lingering touches of vanilla and coffee. Still youthful, we expect this Destinae to be long lived with great evolution through its cellaring life.

**ENJOY FROM:** 4-10+ years from vintage.



**DESTINY BAY**  
**AEOLUSfl**  
**2011**

Estate Bottled  
Wine of New Zealand

Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon,  
Malbec, Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot

Grown, Produced and Bottled By  
Destiny Bay Wines  
379 Gordons Road, Waiheke Island

**Vintage Detail:** Warm Fruitset followed by mild  
summer and moderate rainfall at harvest

**Vinified Tonnage/Acre:** 1.6 - 2.1 tonnes

**Brix:** 23 - 24.8

**Maturation:** 11months 50% French Oak &  
50% American Oak

**Cooperage:** 40% new barrels, 60% 1-2 year barrels

**Cases Produced:** 840

**Alcohol:** 13%

**WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES:**

Violet and red hues with Merlot fruit characters of black cherry, and raspberry dominating. The increased levels of Petit Verdot add some lovely blueberry notes that are underpinned with cassis and raspberry. The wine presents velvety mouthfeel with fine grained tannins that suit the earlier drinking style often associated with Merlot dominant wines. The finish of the wine is lengthy with notes of vanilla and cocoa powder. Delicious and drinkable now, but will develop nicely in the next 3-5 years.

**ENJOY FROM:** 4-6+ years from vintage

\*Destinae was not produced in Vintage 2011



# DESTINY BAY

DESTINAE

2010

Estate Bottled

Wine of New Zealand

40% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot,  
15% Malbec, 12% Cabernet Franc,  
2% Petit Verdot

Grown, Produced and Bottled By  
Destiny Bay Wines  
379 Gordons Road, Waiheke Island

**Vintage Detail:** Cool Fruitset then atypically warm w/  
little rainfall through to harvest

**Vinified Tonnage/Acre:** 1.6 - 2.1 tonnes

**Brix:** 23.5 - 25.6

**Maturation:** 10-15 months 50% French Oak &  
50% American Oak

**Cooperage:** 40% new barrels, 60% 1-2 year barrels

**Cases Produced:** 995

**Alcohol:** 14.2%

## WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES:

Dark purple and red in colour with aromas of cherries, currants and cocoa that exhibit classic typicity in the cabernet spectrum. On the palate this wine has an intensity and structure beyond Destinae releases in prior vintages yet maintains the elegance that is the hallmark of this blend. The particularly ripe Malbec combines with Petit Verdot to yield notes of plum and tobacco. As a whole, this is an expressive wine with remarkable weight and structure which will cellar for many many years.

**ENJOY FROM:** 4-10+ years from vintage



# DESTINY BAY

DESTINAE

2009

Estate Bottled

Wine of New Zealand

41% Cabernet Sauvignon, 28% Merlot,  
21% Cabernet Franc, 6% Malbec,  
4% Petit Verdot

Grown, Produced and Bottled By  
Destiny Bay Wines  
379 Gordons Road, Waiheke Island

**Vintage Detail:** Cool budbreak then warm w/moderate  
rainfall from veraison through harvest

**Vinified Tonnage/Acre:** 1.1 - 1.7 tonnes

**Brix:** 22.0 - 25.1

**Maturation:** 10-15 months 55% French Oak &  
45% American Oak

**Cooperage:** 40% new barrels, 60% 1-year barrels

**Cases Produced:** 672

**Alcohol:** 13.9%

## WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES:

Deep red in colour with a bouquet of dark cherries and undertones of graphite and the traditional musk and perfume notes associated with mature Cabernet Franc. On the palate the increased portion of Petit Verdot this vintage adds hints of blueberry that give the mid-palate both weight and viscosity. Acidity and tannin blend together to create a silky fine-grained structure that is deceptive given the power and aging potential in this year's Destinae.

**ENJOY FROM:** 4-10+ years from vintage



# DESTINY BAY

DESTINAE

2008

Estate Bottled

Wine of New Zealand

39% Cabernet Sauvignon, 29% Merlot,  
15% Cabernet Franc, 16% Malbec,  
1% Petit Verdot

Grown, Produced and Bottled By  
Destiny Bay Wines  
379 Gordons Road, Waiheke Island

**Vintage Detail:** Warm & Dry

**Vinified Tonnage/Acre:** 1.5 - 2.1 tonnes

**Brix:** 24.6 - 25.1

**Maturation:** 10-15 months in French & American Oak

**Cooperage:** 50% new barrels 50% 1-year barrels

**Cases Produced:** 1250

**Alcohol:** 14.1%

## WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES:

A brilliant, purple and ruby colour with blue highlights. The aroma presents dark red fruit from the Merlot and is backed up by tobacco and raspberry from the Cabernet Sauvignon. The increased Cabernet Franc adds hints of violet and earthiness. Silky tannins from the higher portions of free-run juice integrate with the oak and gives the wine length and balance. The dry conditions and fastidious winemaking practices by the team at Destiny Bay have made this a well-crafted wine with great definition.

**ENJOY FROM:** 6-10+ years from vintage



# DESTINY BAY

DESTINAE

2007

Estate Bottled  
Wine of New Zealand  
35% Cabernet Sauvignon,  
33% Merlot, 21% Cabernet Franc,  
11% Malbec

Grown, Produced and Bottled By  
Destiny Bay Wines  
379 Gordons Road, Waiheke Island

**Vintage Detail:** Moderate Warmth & Rainfall

**Vinified Tonnage/Acre:** .9 - 1.8 tonnes

**Brix:** 24.6 - 25.1

**Maturation:** 10-15 months in French & American Oak

**Cooperage:** 50% new barrels 50% 1-year barrels

**Cases Produced:** 781

**Alcohol:** 13.9%

## WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES:

A garnet colour with youthful dark hues. Wonderful perfume on the nose with rose petal and violet highlights underpinned with subtle spiced oak characters. A smooth velvet palate expresses Merlot and Malbec traits. Flavours of black cherries and hints of anise are complemented by a persistent firm coating of tannins in the mouth. Subtle French and American oak offers superb balance, alluring length and a pure finish.

**ENJOY FROM:** 8-10+ years from vintage



# DESTINY BAY

DESTINAE

2006

Estate Bottled  
Wine of New Zealand  
46% Cabernet Sauvignon,  
22% Merlot, 16% Cabernet Franc,  
16% Malbec

Grown, Produced and Bottled By  
Destiny Bay Wines  
379 Gordons Road, Waiheke Island

**Vintage Detail:** Very Warm

**Vinified Tonnage/Acre:** 1.1 - 2.3 tonnes

**Brix:** 23.6 - 26.1

**Maturation:** 10-15 months in French & American Oak

**Cooperage:** 50% new barrels 50% 1-year barrels

**Cases Produced:** 1016

**Alcohol:** 13.7%

## WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES:

Deep crimson with a bright ruby color. The nose exhibits a discreet, smoky bouquet that reveals notions of fresh rhubarb, tamarillo, dark plums, and subtle cider. In addition to its aromatic complexity, Destinae presents classic elegance and delicacy coupled with firm acidity, subtle soft tannins in the mouth and a long finish.

**ENJOY FROM:** 8-10+ years from vintage



Destiny Bay Wines Limited  
379B Gordons Road; RD1  
Waiheke Island  
Auckland, 1971  
New Zealand

[www.destinybaywine.com](http://www.destinybaywine.com)

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