

# VINO FINO

Explore a World of Wine

## ATAAHUA MERLOT 2019



**\$29.99**

Product Code:	5426	Closure:	Screw Cap
Country:	New Zealand	Unit:	Each
Region:	North Canterbury	Volume:	750ml
Sub Region:	Waipara	Alcohol:	14.0%
Style:	Red	Grape:	100% Merlot
Variety:	Merlot		
Producer:	<a href="#">Ataahua Wines</a>		



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## TASTING NOTES

### Winery notes (2019 Vintage)

"Grown on mature vines in our vineyard in Church Road, Waipara, this is one of the few straight Merlot wines produced in this area. With low cropping levels, and a long warm ripening season, the grapes have produced a rich and intensely flavoured wine. The Merlot grapes were hand-harvested and de-stemmed, before a natural and warm fermentation in one tonne vats. The ferments were plunged three times daily to ensure the cap of skins remained moist, and well immersed. Following a gentle press, this young wine was allowed to mature for eighteen months in French oak barrels. During this time, it underwent complete malo-lactic fermentation. It was then lightly filtered, prior to bottling.

The ripe dark berry fruit flavourings, along with the black plum accents in this wine combine with hints of leather and liquorice to present a wonderful bouquet. This is followed by a full palate with ripe tannins. This Merlot is a lovely match to many red meat dishes, including game meats. It is delicious served with rare roast ribeye, accompanied by marinated char roasted vegetables."

### 4 ½ Stars Yvonne Lorkin, February 2022 (2019 Vintage)

"The meaning of the word 'ataahua' in Māori is 'beautiful' or 'thing of beauty' and that's pretty much what you'll find in this North Canterbury merlot. A beautiful drink. So whoever suggested that you couldn't make magical merlot in the Southern climes, clearly has never had the pleasure of sipping this salubrious thing. Intensely aromatic and bursting with bold

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blackberry, plum and dark cocoa characters on the nose, this merlot is juicy and spice-saturated in the mid-palate and boasts warm, attractively fuzzy, furry tannins on the finish. This is by far the best merlot I've ever tasted from the team at Ataahua, and I can't wait to see how it matures over the coming years."

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#### **4 Stars Michael Cooper** (2019 Vintage)

"The youthful 2019 vintage is an estate-grown, North Canterbury red, hand-picked and matured for over a year in seasoned oak barrels. Full-coloured, it is fragrant and mouthfilling, with strong berry, plum, spice and herb flavours, savoury notes adding complexity and gentle tannins. Best drinking mid-2022+."

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#### **91/100 Sam Kim, Wine Orbit, February 2021** (2019 Vintage)

"Offering fabulous ripe fruit notes of Black Doris plum and blackberry combined with nuances of dried herb, mixed spice and roasted nut, the wine displays excellent weight and roundness, backed by silky mouthfeel and polished tannins. Flavoursome and balanced with a lingering succulent finish. At its best: now to 2025."

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#### **90/100 Cameron Douglas MS, September 2021** (2019 Vintage)

"Aromas of fresh, ripe and tart plums, there's a minerality and dark cherry scent along with new to moderate oak complexity. Dry on the palate with a firmness and crunch from tense tannins and acidity followed by flavours of berries and plums that reflect the bouquet. A youthful wine that's best left in cellar to end of 2023 then enjoyed with food. Decanting recommended."

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## CONTACT VINO FINO

Phone: 03 365 5134  
<https://vinofino.co.nz>

## OPEN HOURS

10am to 6pm - Monday to Friday  
10am to 5pm - Saturday  
*Closed Public Holidays*

## VISIT VINO FINO

188 Durham St South,  
Christchurch