



2012 Benhaim Merlot Reserve

Rating

90

Release Price

NA

Drink Date

2017 - 2024

Producer: Benhaim

From: Israel , Galilee , Upper Galilee

Reviewed by

Mark Squires

Issue Date

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Source

233, The Wine Advocate

Color: Red

Type: Table

Sweetness: Dry

Type: Table

Variety: Merlot

The 2012 Merlot Reserve also has 10% Cabernet Franc. It was aged for 20 months in a mixture of French and American oak (half new, half use) and comes in at 13.5% alcohol. This is lovely, lush, seductive and caressing in texture. A bit too oak-tinged, it nonetheless doesn't go overboard. The oak is most noticeable in its texture. Readily drinkable now, it certainly leans more to sexy than structured, but its admirable concentration likely will serve it in good stead as it ages. Don't hesitate to dive in. It's beautiful now. I confess to having some doubt as to how it will develop, but it is worth leaning up a bit now. Sourced from the Mt. Meron area, this runs around 150 shekels in Israel.