

C RAGGY R A N G E



2024 Sophia

GIMBLETT GRAVELS, HAWKE'S BAY

Sophia, the height of elegance and longevity, predominantly showcases Merlot, complemented by Cabernet Franc and a portion of Cabernet Sauvignon. Crafted at our Giants winery, Sophia embodies opulence and ripe flavours with a tannin structure supporting extensive ageing. With vines now over 25 years old, our distinct Merlot blocks contribute aromatic elegance and plush power. Evolving winemaking techniques yield depth and balance with silk-laden tannins accentuated by elevated perfume.

TASTING NOTE

79% Merlot, 14% Cabernet Franc, 7% Cabernet Sauvignon

Aromas of blackcurrant, plum and violet with hints of cedar and cocoa. The palate is powerfully concentrated, medium to full-bodied, showing a plush Merlot core framed by Cabernet structure. Intense blue fruits and dried floral notes are present, and tannins are prominent yet chalky, ripe and long. A Sophia of poise and authority, where power is shaped by restraint, and elegance defines its expression.

WINEMAKING

A cool, late winter delayed budbreak, followed by a mild, wind-influenced spring that naturally moderated yields. A warm, dry summer allowed for extended hangtime, resulting in an exceptional season of both concentration and freshness. Merlot from Block 24 (clone 481) was hand-harvested, setting the foundation for Sophia, with both Cabernet components following as they reached optimal ripeness. Each parcel was meticulously bunch-sorted, then berry-sorted, retaining whole berries before being gently transferred to closed-top French oak cives. Fermentation proceeded over 21-23 days at our purpose-built Sophia winery. Each block was matured separately in French oak, preserving the individuality of each component. The final blend was returned to oak for a further 6 months of maturation before being bottled in October 2025.

ALCOHOL 14.5 | PH 3.64 | ACIDITY 5.91 g/l



2024	97 Points	Andrew Caillard MW
	95 Points	Ken Gargett
	96 Points	Stephen Wong MW
	96 Points	Cameron Douglas MS
	94 Points	Tom Kline
2023	Not produced	
2022	95 Points	Stephen Wong MW
	18.5 Points	Matthew Jukes
	17.5 Points	Jancis Robinson MW
2021	97 Points	Bob Campbell MW
	98 Points	Huon Hooke
	18 Points	Richard Hemming MW