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More Gold And Silver For Far North Wineries

Far North wineries are continuing their medal winning run with the announcement of results from the Liquorland Top 100 Wine Awards results last weekend.

Okahu Estate from Kaitaia has been awarded its second gold medal this year with their Merlot 2005; and the wine has been selected as one of the Top 100 wines in the competition.

The winery was also awarded a silver medal for its Okahu Syrah 07 (following on from its gold award in this years Bragato competition).

“Gold medal success, is like winning a marathon, especially for boutique wineries like Okahu” said the winery’s owner and founder Monty Knight. “It truly gives us that X factor that is so critical when you are trying to stand out, in a world that is awash with wine. It’s also a great result for our winemaker, Jennifer Bound, who is basking in a golden glow with two gold medals this year alone. Selection in the ‘Top 100 wines’ also provides guaranteed distribution to the eighty Liquorland stores throughout New Zealand”.

Marsden Estate of Kerikeri also received a silver medal for its Black Rocks Chardonnay, which is a consistent award winner every vintage. Winemaker and owner of Marsden Estate, Rod Mclvor is delighted with the award. “Black Rocks Chardonnay really is our icon wine”, he said. “Last vintage it was a multiple award winner including winning the Champion wine at the International Chardonnay Challenge, it looks as if this wine is following in its footsteps”.

Rod, who is also President of the Northland Wine Growers Association; congratulated Far North wineries on their continuing success, “There is no doubt that Northland wines are having a notable impact on the New Zealand wine scene” he said “Northlanders are actively seeking them out in our local restaurants, liquor stores and cellar doors, keen to introduce their visitors to them. With continuing results like this, they can be justifiably proud of them”.

The results are especially satisfying to the medal winners, as the Liquorland Top 100 Wine Awards is an international competition, attracting entries from all over the world, especially Australia. There were 1476 wines entered, resulting in 95 golds, 212 silvers and 496 bronze medals being awarded.

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