

## Destiny Bay Wine Wins Top Praise from Internationally Prominent Critic

Gerard Basset, Master of Wine & Holder of World's Best Sommelier Title, Lauds Destiny Bay

Waiheke Island, New Zealand (PRWEB) July 27, 2011

[ShareThis](#) [Email](#) [PDF](#) [Print](#)

Destiny Bay Vineyards announced today that Gerard Basset, internationally recognized Master of Wine and holder of four U.K. and European Best Sommelier titles, including World's Best Sommelier, ranked Destiny Bay wines with the finest First Growth French Bordeaux and Italian Super Tuscans.

In a methodical tasting of Destiny Bay's 2006, 2007 and 2008 vintages, including a barrel tasting of 2010, Mr. Basset reserved special praise for the Magna Praemia blend stating that in a blind tasting he would have identified the 2006 as an elegant Left Bank Bordeaux, the 2007 as a fine First Growth Bordeaux and the 2008 as a top Super Tuscan.

"This acclaim from an expert of Mr. Basset's stature is most gratifying," stated Mike Spratt, co-founder of Destiny Bay Vineyards. "New Zealand already enjoys global standing for producing great Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Noir. The Destiny Bay team is proud to contribute to New Zealand's growing reputation for also producing world-class cabernet blends."

"This has been a year of critical praise for Destiny Bay Vineyards," stated Mark Feldman, owner of Destiny Bay Wine Imports in the U.S. "Top experts, including Anthony Dias Blue, Bob Campbell and Neal Martin on Robert Parker, Jr.'s team, have rated multiple vintages of these wines in the 90's with a recent high rating of 98 points for the '07 Magna Praemia by Mr. Blue. This continued validation has reinforced our market position as the elegant new Bordeaux from New Zealand."

"Our whole team is excited about this outstanding assessment of our hard work in the field and the winery," stated Sean Spratt, Winemaker and General Manager of Destiny Bay Wines. "Like so many small artisan producers, we don't make a lot of wine, but we do try to make some of the best."

### About Gerard Basset

Gerard Basset is the only person ever to have completed the triple qualifications of Master of Wine, Master Sommelier, and MBA (Wine), and he has won almost every major sommelier award in the world, including the World's Best Sommelier Competition in Santiago, Chile last year. Born and raised in France, Basset relocated to the United Kingdom where he has trained a generation of sommeliers at Hotel du Vin and his current hotel, the boutique TerraVina in New Forest, near Southampton. Basset serves as the Worldwide Vice President at the Court of Master Sommeliers and is Director of the Academy of Food and Wine Service. This year, he was appointed Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the 2011 Queen's Birthday Honours for services to the hospitality industry.

### About Destiny Bay Vineyards

Destiny Bay is a small, single vineyard, family-owned winery on Waiheke Island, New Zealand that specializes in estate grown and bottled blends of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Malbec and Petit Verdot. Destiny Bay produces fewer than 2,200 cases per year of their three distinct blends, Magna Praemia, Mystae and Destinae. Destiny Bay is Waiheke Island's first fully certified Sustainable Winery & Vineyard (SWNZ) and is a founding member of The Specialist Winegrowers of New Zealand.

### Trademarks

Destiny Bay, the Comet, Magna Praemia, Mystae and Destinae are registered trademarks of Destiny Bay Vineyards Ltd. Other names may be trademarks of their respective owners.

###

Share: [f](#) [t](#) [st](#) [b](#) [p](#) [in](#) [s](#) [i](#)



Destiny Bay Magna Praemia

“Destiny Bay wines rank with the finest First Growth French Bordeaux and Italian Super Tuscans.”

### Contact

**Mark L. Feldman, Ph.D.**  
[Destiny Bay Wine Imports](#)  
+1-650-400-5505  
[Email](#)

**Sean Spratt**  
[Destiny Bay Wines Ltd.](#)  
+64-21-773-656  
[Email](#)



We're here to help.  
Call 1-866-640-6397

 Twitter  LinkedIn  Facebook

- Why PRWeb
- How It Works
- Who Uses It
- Pricing
- Learning
- Blog
- About Vocus
- Contact Us
- Partners
- Subscribe to News
- Terms of Service
- Privacy Policy
- Copyright
- Site Map



[Create Free Account >](#)

**VOCUS** ©Copyright 1997-2011, Vocus PRW Holdings, LLC. Vocus, PRWeb, and Publicity Wire are trademarks or registered trademarks of Vocus, Inc. or Vocus PRW Holdings, LLC.