HERZOG

81 Jeffries Rd, Marlborough,
(03) 572 8770, www.herzog.co.nz.

Hans and Therese Herzog owned a successful winery and restaurant in their native Switzerland, but Hans wanted a new winemaking challenge, so he scoured the world to find a spot where he could make top red wine. Marlborough got lucky when he picked a site that Hans believes is the warmest in the Wairau Valley.

It seemed too good to be true when this super-sophisticated, European-style winery restaurant opened its doors in Marlborough. It's like stepping into a top Michelin-star French restaurant. Therese Herzog has an eye for detail and leaves nothing to chance. The ambience is formal and sumptuous, the service discreetly attentive, the food classically European, and the wine list extensive and carefully selected by people who obviously understand fine wine. Herzog claims to have a larger wine collection than any other New Zealand restaurant.

This quote from Herzog's website sums up their style: "The luxurious and elegant high-ceiling restaurant and lounges featuring large romantic fireplaces, antiques, original artwork, lavish fresh flower arrangements, heavy silver cutlery, finest custom-made French china, Riedel crystal glasses … beautiful lavish gardens, vineyard and olive grove, shows perfection in every detail." BC