



CABERNET SAUVIGNON MERLOT 2021

Wine of Origin Stellenbosch

Style of Wine: Fruity red blend.

Grape varieties: Cabernet Sauvignon 80% | Merlot 20%

Background:

This easy drinking Bordeaux style blend made its debut in the Simonsig portfolio in 1998.

Vintage Description:

Good winter rainfall in 2020 resulted in good soil water levels and plenty of available water for grapevines. A late and prolonged winter season resulted in a late start to the season. Furthermore, Stellenbosch experienced consistently cooler weather conditions throughout the season. Some rainfall during the spring and early summer months required meticulous vineyard management to prevent fungal disease. A good number of flowering bunches showed good promise early in the season. Relatively cool conditions during December and January were very favourable and resulted in slow and gradual ripening, allowing for exceptional flavour concentration in the grapes with good acidity and low pH levels.

Vinification:

The grapes were picked at the optimal ripeness – between 23,5 and 25 balling. After being destemmed and grapes, the grapes were cold soaked for 2 days before fermentation took place between 8 and 14 days. Pumpovers took place approximately 3 to 4 times a day. The wines were respectively aged in tank with premium French oak staves for 6 months, followed by a 5-10% portion being aged in barrel for 12 months. The wine was blended and lightly fined, with no fining taking place before bottling.

Wine Description:

The wine displays a dark plum colour. It is fruit forward with raspberry and blackcurrant and spiciness on the nose. A slight touch of oak makes it a medium bodied wine with soft tannins.

Cellaring Potential:

Ready to drink now, but could age for a further 2 to 3 years.

Serving Suggestions:

Meat lover's pizza, spaghetti bolognese, gourmet beef burger, or even Moroccan Dark chocolate as a treat.

Analysis:

Alcohol:	13.45% by volume (labelled as 13.5%)
Residual Sugar:	3.4 g/l
Total Acidity:	5.7 g/l
pH:	3.59

Suitable for vegans