

Essay

Syrah / Grenache
Mourvèdre / Cinsault
2018



Wine description

This is a medium-bodied blended red wine with an expressive nose and a soft, lush mouth-feel. Syrah gives ripe plum and dark fruit notes on the nose and palate. Grenache softens the palate, adding floral notes and together with the Syrah forms the backbone of the blend. Mourvèdre adds complexity with savoury leather and spice aromas. Cinsault gives red fruit notes and a soft, lush mouth-feel to the final blend. Overall, the wine shows depth and finesse, but with gentle tannins.

Vinification details

Grapes were hand-harvested at between 24 and 25° balling and fermented over a 7-day period in stainless-steel tanks. All components were lightly wooded in older casks for a softer mouth-feel. The wine was made in a delicate but fruit-forward style. Fining and filtration was done prior to bottling.

Vineyards

The Syrah, Cinsault and Mourvèdre grapes for our ESSAY red blend come from un-irrigated vineyards grown on shale soils in the Agter-Paarl region. The Grenache grows on the border of the Agter-Paarl and Swartland regions, on irrigated and trellised vines.

Vintage description

2018 was a warm and dry season producing smaller berries with enhanced flavour concentration. Warmer day-time temperatures combined with cooler night-time temperatures resulted in perfect fruit quality showing good flavour intensity and fresh acidity. This season produced a healthy and disease-free crop, resulting in wines with intense aromatics and great texture on the palate.

Varietal Blend

Syrah 70%
Grenache 13%
Mourvèdre 11%
Cinsault 6%

Analysis

Alc: 14.0% RS: 3.7 g/l
TA: 5.7 g/l pH: 3.42

Wine of Origin: Coastal Region

Closure: Screw Cap

Grape Source: Agter-Paarl

Production: 3000 x 12 x 750ml