

2007 Malabar

Five centuries ago the ancient mariners braved uncharted seas to round the Cape of Good Hope in search of exotic spices. Their nerve and dash inspire the Spice Route philosophy. We have found our signature wine style in the rolling hills along the Cape's West Coast, where unirrigated vines produce grapes with small thick skinned berries – ripe fruit that is dense, rich and full flavoured. A passionate dedication to exceptional quality and traditional hand crafting captures the essence of this fruit in the wines of the Spice Route.

IN THE VINEYARD

The hand selected fruit was harvested from dryland vineyards in the Swartland. The Shiraz is from a trellised vineyard, planted on oakleaf and koffieklip soil in 1995. The Mourvèdre was planted in 2001, mainly on oakleaf soil. The Petite Sirah component hails from the maiden block in South Africa, planted in 2001. The Grenache vines are 56 years old, planted on sandy decomposed granite. And the Tannat is also from the maiden block in South Africa, planted on koffieklip soil in 2003.

HARVEST DATE

February to March 2007.

WINEMAKING

Malabar is a blend of varietals, vinified and matured individually in our dedicated Malabar cellar. The fruit was hand harvested early in the morning into small lug boxes. After a bunch selection, the individual berries were hand sorted over a sorting table and fermented in open 1800kg 100% new French oak vats. The individual components were matured in French oak vats for 12 months, during which time the barrels are tasted regularly. The best barrels were selected, blended and returned to barrel for a further 10 months. The wine was bottled without being filtered. Total production for the 2007 vintage was 28 barrels.

WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS

"This vintage once again contains Petit Sirah and Tannat, adding colour and complexity to the wine. These are amongst the first Petit Sirah vineyards in South Africa and I am excited about the prospects as the vineyard matures."

- Charl du Plessis

PREVIOUS VINTAGES:

2006: Gold Medal - Concours Mondial de Bruxelles 2010

2005: 92 points - Wine Spectator

2005: 4 1/2 stars - Platters Wine Guide 2010

2004: International and Regional Trophies (Red blend over £10) - Decanter World Wine Awards 2007

2004: Gold medal - Classic Wine Trophy 2007

2004: 91 points - Wine Spectator

2004: 4 1/2 stars - Platters Wine Guide

2003: Gold Medal - Decanter World Wine Awards 2007

2003: 90 points - Wine Spectator

2003: 4 1/2 stars - Platters Wine Guide



Wine of Origin	Swartland
Alcohol	14,5%
Residual sugar	3.7 g/l
Total acid	5.9 g/l
pH	3.55

52% Syrah | 24% Mourvèdre | 10% Petite Sirah | 7% Grenache | 7% Tannat

SpiceRoute

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