

# 2012 Terra de Bron Swartland Mourvèdre

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 quality and traditional hand-crafting captures the essence of this fruit in our wines.

De Bron was the nickname given to the town of Malmesbury before British rule, as Bron is the Dutch word for a thermal water spring and the area was known for its healing hot springs and dry air.

## IN THE VINEYARD

The grapes used to produce this wine hail from the oldest Mourvèdre vineyard on Amoskuil farm. The bushvine is planted on a particularly pure outcrop of Koffieklip soil, which overlooks the winery from the eastern side of the farm. 2012 was a very low-yield vintage in the Swartland, with this block producing just 1.91 tons per hectare.

## HARVEST DATE

29 March 2012

## WINEMAKING

This small block was separated from the rest of the Mourvedre vineyard at picking, and taken through a meticulous process to preserve its identity. Pre-sorted in the vineyard, hand-picked, and sorted a second time in the cellar, the final pick was allocated to a small 2-ton open concrete fermenter with manual punch downs, respecting the integrity of the fruit. The grapes were pressed into barrel for malolactic fermentation and maturation.

The wine spent 19 months in old French barrels before blending and bottling.

## WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS

"We've always believed in the potential of Mourvèdre in the Swartland and this block has consistently produced a precise style of wine which I tend to enjoy more. I trust you will agree."

- Charl du Plessis

## TASTING NOTE

Black cherry infused with earthy tones on the nose. Ripe fruit and savoury herbal notes show well on the palate. A surprisingly delicate wine from this hot climate with the elegant influence of old French oak.



Wine of Origin	Swartland
Alcohol	13.5%
Residual sugar	3.5 g/l
Total acid	5.3g/l
pH	3.57

*SpiceRoute*

THE SPICE ROUTE WINERY SOUTH AFRICA

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