

# 2014 Spice Route Terra de Bron Darling Semillon

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.

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## IN THE VINEYARD

These unirrigated vineyards on the cool south-western slopes of Darling, just four kilometres from the cold Atlantic Ocean, were planted on finely-decomposed granite and clay soil called Oakleaf. This deep ferricrete soil gives delicate complexity and mineral textures, while ensuring natural water supply to the vine.

## HARVEST DATE

25 February 2014

## WINEMAKING

The grapes were handpicked at about 23° balling. The berries were gentle destalked and crushed and left on the skin for 24 hours, before fermentation. 15% of the juice fermented naturally in new burgundy French oak and the balance in very old French barrels and other neutral vessels. After fermentation the wine was kept in barrel for 14 months on the lees before bottling.

## WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS

With the cool summer of 2014 and the generous rains, we knew that the fruit from Darling would be something special. Tasting the grapes at picking confirmed this straight away! The grapes had an amazing combination of fruit flavours and I knew were sitting on something unique.

- Charl du Plessis

## TASTING NOTE

A cool climate Semillon with typical Darling minerality. Vibrant aromas of grape fruit, soy, ginger and green pears, backed by the subtle influence of oak that adds a savoury complexity to the mouth feel of this wine.

## FOOD RECOMMENDATION

A wonderful pairing with delicately spiced Thai cuisine.



<b>Wine of Origin</b>	<b>Darling</b>
<b>Alcohol</b>	<b>13.5%</b>
<b>Residual sugar</b>	<b>4.7 g/l</b>
<b>Total acid</b>	<b>6.5g/l</b>
<b>pH</b>	<b>3.51</b>

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