



JOURNEY'S END

V2 Merlot 2018

Background: The Varietal Series is a selection of exceptional estate wines that deliver the expression of our vineyard and what we do at Journey's End, while exploring how different varieties thrive in our unique coastal terroir.

Blend Composition: 100% Merlot

Origin: W.O. Stellenbosch

In the Vineyard: The grapes were picked from Block 5, where the soil originates from 350-million-year-old granite decomposition. The block is situated next to a Eucalyptus forest, which imparts a herbaceous influence to the flavour profile, while the close ocean proximity and cool sea breezes allow the fruit to ripen for longer, increasing the concentration and complexity of aromas.

The vineyard blocks are situated 190m above sea level, 7km from the ocean. The soil type is Tukulu.

In the Cellar: The grapes are stored overnight in the cold room, then hand sorted and destemmed. The whole berries were then cold soaked for 4 days before fermentation began, which lasted 15 days between 18-25°C with a carefully planned pump over schedule ensuring soft tannins.

Malolactic fermentation was completed in stainless steel tanks, before a 16-month barrel maturation period in 25% new French oak, 5% new American oak and the remaining 70% matured in older barrels.

Analysis: Alc: 14.5% | pH: 3.58 | TA: 5.75 g/l | RS: 3.8 g/l



Tasting Notes: Ruby, clear and bright. Displaying blackcurrants and raspberries, with hints of subtle blackcurrant leaf. The well-matched oak allows for the fruit to shine while creating complexity with notes of vanilla and nutmeg. An elegant, polished wine already drinking well, exhibiting very soft tannins with just enough grip to promise good cellaring potential.

Planting Date: 2001 | **Irrigation:** Drip Irrigation | **Aspect:** South facing | **Trellis System:** Extended Perold
Rootstock: Richter 110 | **HA Planted:** 2.43 | **Harvest Dates:** February – March 2018

Ageability: Best enjoyed now, but will gracefully age and reward cellaring for up to 8 years.



Journeysendwines



Journey's End, Stellenbosch



Journey's End Wines



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