

RUSTENBERG WINES

BUZZARD KLOOF SYRAH 2015

INTRODUCTION

Buzzard Kloof is a unique vineyard site that is planted with French clones of Syrah imported before the turn of the century. The name "Buzzard Kloof" arose from the Jackal and Steppe Buzzards that can be seen circling the thermal currents above the kloof (ravine) within which the vineyard is situated. This Syrah is unique in that it is planted on one of the coolest and least sun exposed slopes on Rustenberg, resulting in a long, late ripening process and consistently produces the most structured and full bodied Syrah on the property. We recommend decanting this wine before serving.

VINTAGE

The cold wet Winter of 2014 started early and ended late, which is ideal for the vineyards' dormancy; however an unseasonably cool Spring resulted in the vines going into Summer with 10 to 40% less crop than usual. The remainder of the season was warm and dry resulting in one of the earliest harvests on record. Zero disease pressure and small crops of fantastic ripe fruit combined with high natural acids make this potentially the vintage of the decade.

VINEYARDS

Wine of Origin	Simonsberg, Stellenbosch
Varietal Blended	100% Syrah
Soil Types	Decomposed Granite
Trellising/Pruning System	VSP (Vertical Shoot Positioned), 2 Node Spur Pruned
Irrigation Type	Minimal Drip Irrigation
Picking Method & Date	Hand Picked, March 2015

WINEMAKING

Extraction Method	Crushed and De-stemmed Fruit, Pumped Over During Ferment
Fermentation Vessel	Stainless Steel
Yeast	Cultured Active Dry Wine Yeast
Extended Maceration	For +/- 7 days
Oak Aging	100% aged for 20 Months
Age and Type of Oak	40% New French & American barriques; 60% 2nd & 3rd fill
Fining Agents Used	Egg Whites (Albumen)
Final Analysis	Alc v/v: 14.5% TA 5.7g/L pH 3.47 RS 2.6g/L
Bottling Date	December 2016

WINE

Tasting Note	The wine exhibits an enticing nose of pepper, violets and ripe berry fruits which follow through to a well-structured and lengthy palate with fine grained tannins.
Aging Potential	10+ years from vintage under ideal cellaring conditions

ACCOLADES

AWARD	COMPETITION/PUBLICATION	YEAR/EDITION
91 Points	Robert Parker, Jr – Wine Advocate	April 2017
90 Points	Tim Atkin SA Report	2017
Gold Medal	Veritas Wine Awards	2017
Silver Outstanding Medal	International Wine & Spirits Competition	2017
Silver Medal – 91 Points	International Wine Challenge	2017
Silver Medal	Decanter World Wine Awards	2017
Top 12 Shiraz	Shiraz SA Challenge	2017

