

RUSTENBERG WINES

STELLENBOSCH SYRAH 2009

INTRODUCTION

Made from fruit from the Buzzard Kloof vineyard site that was 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 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 2009 vintage has been hailed as one of the best vintages of the decade. Following on from a normal cold, wet Winter was a Spring that allowed balanced growth and rain at the right times. The Summer was warm but devoid of heat waves and the small, later ripening crop of fruit that arrived in the cellar was seamless, requiring the winemaking team to simply guide the wines through the cellar with little intervention. The result: balanced, opulent and ageable wines.

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, April 2009

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 19 Months
Age and Type of Oak	40% New; 60% 2nd & 3rd fill French 225L barrels
Fining Agents Used	Egg Whites (Albumen)
Final Analysis	Alc v/v: 14.46% (14.5 on label) TA 5.5g/L pH 3.63 RS 2.1g/L
Bottling Date	December 2010

WINE

Tasting Note	Deep purple, inky hues characterise this wine. The aromas are initially savoury and meaty, developing into a very concentrated and complex perfume with prominent spicy notes of cloves, cinnamon and violets. The palate entry exhibits tremendous concentration of flavour and has gratifying length.
Aging Potential	8 – 10 years from vintage under ideal cellaring conditions

ACCOLADES

AWARD	COMPETITION/PUBLICATION	YEAR/EDITION
Silver Medal	Decanter World Wine Awards	2011
Silver Medal	Veritas Wine Awards	2012
88 Points	Robert Parker's Wine Advocate	2012

