



SIMONSIG

STELLENBOSCH



FRANS MALAN

Style of Wine

Dry Red wine. Cape style blend

Heritage

In 1991 we experimented with a Pinotage Cabernet blend for the Cape Independent Winemakers Guild, to show the public a new approach in winemaking. At that time it was in vogue to talk about what a typical South African blend is. After the success of the 1991 vintage we decided to make this blend as a limited release to the larger public. The wine was named after Frans Malan, the founder of Simonsig and the patriarch of the Malan family. The 8 vintages to date have built up an enviable track record with 3 Veritas Double Gold and 4 Gold Medals.

Vintage Description

The winter before the 2002 harvest was extremely wet with 897 mm of rain measured in 2001. This is about 33% more than the long term average. High rainfall during the growing season created very high disease pressure. Downy mildew destroyed almost 25% of the crop in Stellenbosch, resulting in one of the smallest crops in years. Average temperatures were considerably lower than average. The cool summer was followed by ideal warmer weather in February and March. The red varieties ripened slowly and allowed the tannins to ripen to perfection. The small harvest and ideal ripening conditions produced wines with excellent concentration of fruit and ripe

Wood Maturation

18 months. 49% American White Oak, 51% French Oak, New wood 77%, 2nd fill 23%.

Wine Description

Intensely deep Persian colour. On the nose a combination of sweet plum, mulberry flavours with an undertone of blackberry fruit. Sweet and spicy vanilla oak supports the layers of seductive flavours of the three cultivars. The sweet fruit of Pinotage, well developed tannin structure of Cabernet Sauvignon and the dry lingering finish of Merlot makes this wine a true Cape Style blend in every way.

Cellaring Potential

Will reach peak maturity in 5 to 8 years from vintage.

Serving Suggestions

Oxtail hot pot, Ostrich steaks, Venison and Rump steak.



A W A R D S

- 1999 Veritas 2001: Gold
- Wine 500 Spring Selection 2003: Listed as one of top 3 Cape Pinotage Blends
- 2000 Juliet Cullinan Masters Award:
- Cape Blends: First: Silver Medal, Veritas 2003: Double Gold
- USA Wine Spectator – 2004: 90 points
- International Wine and Spirit Competition 2004: Silver
- 2001 Wine of the Month Club winner: Non Bordeaux Style
- Fairbairn Capital Trophy Wine Show 2003: Silver Medal
- Michelangelo Wine Awards 2003: Silver Medal
- Veritas 2003: Double Gold
- Winner: Wine-of-the-Month Club 2004, Red Blends, Not Bordeaux Style
- 2002 Veritas 2004: Silver Medal

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Vintage

2002

Region

Stellenbosch

Grapes

Pinotage 67 %

Cabernet Sauvignon 24 %

Merlot 9%

Analysis

Alcohol: 15.1 % vol

Residual Sugar: 2.2 g/l

Total Acidity: 5.4 g/l

pH: 3.7

