



MERINDOL SYRAH

Style of Wine

Premium quality oak matured Syrah from a selected single vineyard site.

Heritage

The name Merindol is taken from the Malan Coat of Arms and is the French village where the Malans originated. Over the past decade Simonsig has replanted Shiraz vineyards with the best Shiraz clones available. Each vineyard was planted on a specially selected site to optimise quality. This has led to a dramatic improvement in quality. The Merindol vineyard is planted on a deep red Hutton soil of weathered granite origin. These are the most sought after soils for growing red wine. The high clay percentage has a high water retention capacity and this sustains the vines during the dry summer months. The vineyard was planted in 1996 with a French Shiraz clone SH 99 and it yields 9.5 tons per hectare after green harvesting was done at veraison.

Vintage Description

Below average winter rainfall with lots of snow on the mountains - even on Table Mountain! Shiraz flowered unevenly and carried a big crop. Green harvesting at veraison removed the uneven bunches and lowered the crop. Cool summer conditions and slow even ripening was the most memorable vintage characteristic. Perfect ripening with excellent concentration of colour and flavour. Perfectly healthy berries.

Wine Description

Deep Persian carpet red. Black mulberry fruit with white pepper and dried fynbos aromas against an exotic spicy, vanilla oak backdrop. Smooth entry on the palate reveals delicious perfumed berry fruit. Unashamedly full bodied with luxurious oak providing layers of richness and texture. Classic firm tannin structure with a food friendly dryness on the finish. An elegant Merindol Syrah from a cooler vintage with excellent maturation potential which should peak at 2011 - 2014.

Wood Maturation

17 months. French Oak 88%, American White Oak 12%. New wood: 100%

Cellaring Potential

8 to 10 years

Serving Suggestions

Delicious with Chalmar rump, espetadas and a great pair with seared tuna layered with coarse pink peppercorn.



A W A R D S

- 2003 Veritas 2006: Silver Medal
International Wine Challenge 2006: Seal of Approval
Veritas 2005: Silver Medal
- 2002: International Wine and Spirit Competition 2006: Silver;
Best in Class: Shiraz: Stellenbosch - 2002
International Wine and Spirit Competition 2004: Gold Medal
Fairbairn Capital Trophy Wine Show 2004: Gold
- 2001 Decanter 2006 Awards: Silver
Best Shiraz in Wine Magazine's TOPS at Spar Shiraz Challenge 2004
Veritas 2003: Double Gold
Swiss International Air Lines Wine Awards 2004: Silver Medal
Michelangelo Wine Awards 2003: Double Gold
Veritas 2002: Double Gold

SIMONSIG WINE ESTATE, STELLENBOSCH

PO BOX 6, KOELENHOF 7605, SOUTH AFRICA
T. +27 21 888 4900 F. +27 21 888 4909
WWW.SIMONSIG.CO.ZA

Vintage

2004

Region

Stellenbosch

Grapes

Syrah (syn. Shiraz) 100%

Analysis

Alcohol: 15%

Residual Sugar: 3.1 g/l

Total Acidity: 5.7 g/l

pH: 3.6

