



## MERINDOL SYRAH

### Style of Wine

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

### Heritage

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. In the 2002 vintage the grapes came from a lighter sandy loam soil which caused mild moisture stress during the final ripening stage. Extremely low yield of 3,7 tons per hectare added to the concentration of fruit. The Merindol name is taken from the Malan Coat of Arms.

### Vintage Description

Warmer conditions during the growing season lead to an earlier start to the vintage. Crop size for Stellenbosch was normal despite below average winter rainfall. The Summer was very dry with water restrictions in Cape Town and for our irrigation purposes. Very healthy grapes produced many outstanding red wines across the whole spectrum of grape varieties. Shiraz was the star variety of the 2005 vintage.

### Wine Description

Deep brick red in colour. Perfumed aromas of dried Protea flowers, fynbos, liquorice and white pepper layered with ripe mulberry and plummy fruit creates an exciting complexity of flavours on the nose. Very lush ripe fruit fill out the structure of this classic Syrah that shows velvety smooth tannins and persistent blackberry fruit intensity all the way to a deliciously silky smooth finish.

### Wood Maturation

19 months. 100% New French Oak Barriques: Francois Freres, Dargaud & Jaegle, Vicard Prestige, Berger

### 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

2005	Veritas 2007: Silver Medal
2004	Swiss International Air Lines Wine Awards 2008: Gold Medal Veritas 2006: Gold Medal International Wine and Spirit Competition 2006: Silver
2003	Monde Selection 2007: Silver Medal
2002	International Wine and Spirit Competition 2004: Gold Medal Fairbairn Capital Trophy Wine Show 2004: Gold
2001	Best Shiraz in Wine Magazine's TOPS at Spar Shiraz Challenge 2004 Veritas 2003: Double Gold Michelangelo Wine Awards 2003: Double Gold
2000	Veritas 2002: Double Gold

**Vintage**  
2005

**Region**  
Stellenbosch

**Grapes**  
Syrah (syn. Shiraz) 100%

**Analysis**  
Alcohol: 15.5 %  
Residual Sugar: 3.3 g/l  
Total Acidity: 6.2 g/l  
pH: 3.5

