



NEIL ELLIS

## CABERNET SAUVIGNON MERLOT

2018

VIBRANT, DEEP DARK IN COLOUR. THE NOSE SHOWS COMPLEX AROMAS OF DARK FRUIT WITH LIQUORICE, SPICY CEDAR NOTES. THE PALATE IS DENSE AND COMPLEX WITH WELL FRAMED AND INTEGRATED TANNINS.

### VINEYARDS

The Stellenbosch Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot blend is Bordeaux-style red blend sourced from multiple sites around Stellenbosch. Known for producing outstanding quality in both varieties, the Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot honours the timeless tradition of blending different varieties from different sites in order to produce a unique, premium quality wine.

Trellised vineyards planted on south-west facing slopes in decomposed granite soils from the Bottelary Hills and Jonkershoek valley.

### WINEMAKING

Grapes were harvested between 24.0°B and 25.5°B with a total acid of 6.7 – 7.1 g/l and a pH of 3.5.

Fermentation initiated in stainless steel tanks and underwent a series of pump overs until dry. Further maceration allowed before drawing off and light pressing.

The wine spent 17 months in French oak barrels of which 25% was new. The balance in 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> fill barrels.

### GRAPES

50% CABERNET SAUVIGNON  
50% MERLOT

### ANALYSIS

Alcohol: 14.0%

Residual Sugar: 1.4g/l

Total Acid: 6.0g/l

pH: 3.5

### FOOD PAIRING

Lamb shanks, venison and steak.

