

Thelema Merlot 2003

John Platter 2006 - 5 Stars

This is a barrel selection of our finest merlot. This wine has enormous depth of colour, pure and concentrated blackcurrant flavours and a wonderful silky texture. The tannins are firm at the moment, and the wine will benefit from ageing for another few years.

variety : Merlot | 100% Merlot

winery : Thelema Mountain Vineyards

winemaker : Gyles Webb

wine of origin : Stellenbosch

analysis : alc : 14.11 % vol rs : 1.4 g/l pH : 3.45 ta : 6.1 g/l

type : Red wooded

pack : Bottle **closure :** Cork

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ageing : Should peak in about 2008.

in the vineyard : Varietal: Merlot, clone 192

Root stock: R99

Soil type: Hutton "decomposed granite

Age of vine: Planted 1988

Plant density: 3200 vines per hectare

Trellising: Vertical hedge

Pruning: 2-bud spurs every 12 cms

Yield: Approximately 7 tons per ha

Irrigation: Supplementary drip

Vintage: Warm weather with a long ripening period.

about the harvest: Picking date: 19th Feb until 2nd March

Grape sugar: Average 25° Balling

Acidity: Average 6 g/l

pH at harvest: 3,6