

## Simonsig Tiara 1998

### Veritas 2005 - Silver

Deep black cherry colour. The nose shows ripe blackcurrant and cassis aromas with subtle toasty wood vanilla and cinnamon influence. Delicate crushed berry fruit on the palate well balanced by the classic mature tannin structure. The overall impression is elegant with loss of hidden flavour that will emerge with further maturation.

**variety :** Cabernet Sauvignon | 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Franc

**winery :** Simonsig Family Vineyards

**winemaker :** Johan Malan

**wine of origin :** Stellenbosch

**analysis :** alc : 13.56 % vol rs : 1.98 g/l pH : 3.62 ta : 5.71 g/l

**type :** Red      wooded

**pack :** Bottle

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**ageing :** The Tiara has the body and structure to improve with cellaring up to 2005, but should last much longer. Due to the elegance and great fruit intensity it is also delicious to drink now.

**in the vineyard :** This is the flagship red wine of Simonsig and reflects the best quality the vintage has delivered. The first Tiara was made in 1990 and upon release in 1992 it was an instant hit being chosen by the Wine of the Month Club as Wine of the year. The 1997 is the first vintage that has Petit Verdot included in the blend.

It was a fairly dry winter with 529 mm of rain which is about 20% below average. The growing season started early and we expected a very early harvest. This was exacerbated by dry hot conditions during harvest which resulted in high sugars. Due to these hot conditions we harvested very healthy grapes as there were no problems with viticultural diseases during the growing period. The size of the crop was about 10% below average and the average yield was 8.5 T/Ha. Exceptionally ripe grapes were picked and the wines all show very dark colours, succulent fruit and soft ripe tannins.

**in the cellar :** Wood Maturation: 17 months oaking. French Oak: 96%. American New Oak: 4%  
New: 63% 2nd Fill: 24% Older: 13%

### Simonsig Family Vineyards

Stellenbosch

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