

Muratie Merlot 2002

Colour: Deep intensive ruby red to inky black.

Nose: A combination of plums and chocolate come to the fore followed by blackcurrant and chocolate on the palate.

Palate: The full intense assortments of flavours provide a feast for the palate. The wine has lots of body, yet subtle with well integrated oak giving it a lasting finish.

variety : Merlot | 100% Merlot

winery :

winemaker : Francois Conradie

wine of origin : Simonsberg - Stellenbosch

analysis : alc : 13.49 % vol rs : 3.8 g/l pH : 3.84 ta : 5.4 g/l

type : Red **wooded**

pack : Bottle

ageing : Now until 2014.

in the vineyard : The 2002 Muratie Merlot was harvested from three different blocks on the estate. The vines were planted in 1990 and 1992. Two of the blocks are North West facing and the third block faces north. The elevation of the vines are at 280m above sea level.

The Table Mountain sandstone soil provides good moisture to these dryland vineyards. All the vines are planted on Richter 99 rootstock.

about the harvest: The grapes were handpicked. The yield was 4.5 tons per hectare.

in the cellar : The grapes were crushed and destalked and pumped into traditional open fermenters. Pumping over and plunging was done at regular intervals. The wine was matured in French oak barrels (25% new oak) for 12 months.