

Spier Merlot 2005

John Platter Guide 2006 - 3 stars

The wine is dark ruby red - clear and brilliant. Rich, inviting berry fruit on the nose is enhanced by whiffs of caramel and vanilla. These flavours follow through on the velvety smooth, mouthfilling palate, while firm acid lingers on the aftertaste.

Serve with pasta, cheese and red meat.

variety : Merlot | 100% Merlot

winery : Spier Wine Farm

winemaker : Kobie Viljoen

wine of origin : Coastal

analysis : alc : 14.38 % vol rs : 5.0 g/l pH : 3.53 ta : 5.3 g/l

type : Red style : Dry body : Full taste : Fragrant wooded

pack : Bottle

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ageing : Enjoy now, or within 3-4 years from harvest.

in the vineyard : **Climate:**

Average Temperature: Summer 20.5°C Winter: 13.5°C

Annual Rainfall: 890mm

Proximity to ocean: 15km

Soil:

Kroonstad and Tukulu

Vineyard:

Eight-year-old trellised vines planted on southeast-facing slopes yielded the grapes for this wine. The vineyards received supplementary drip irrigation and produced 8 tons per hectare.

about the harvest: Grapes from selected vineyard blocks were picked at full ripeness.

in the cellar : Temperature controlled fermentation in stainless steel tanks ensured optimum extraction of colour and fruit flavours. Following fermentation the wine was transferred to oak barrels. Ten months maturation in French oak broadened the flavours and added complexity and finesse.

Spier Wine Farm

Stellenbosch

021 809 1100

www.spier.co.za

