

The Winery of Good Hope Pinotage 2006

John Platter 2007 - 3 Stars

By handling the grapes and the ferment as we did, we were able to focus on all the good aspects of Pinotage's heritage into the bottle (cherry fruit related to Pinot, spiciness related to cinsault) and avoid all of those that have so often made Pinotage infamously awful. Using free-run juice only is reflected in the red cherries, violets and juicy palate, which finishes with balance, length, a touch of minerality and some really funky spice. Definitely a Pinotage you can drink a bottle of on your own. Even slightly chilled. Now we're hooked, we'll be making a lot more like this ...

variety : Pinotage | Pinotage

winery : The Winery of Good Hope

winemaker : Edouard Labeye

wine of origin : Stellenbosch

analysis : alc : 14.5 % vol rs : 2.2 g/l pH : 3.5 ta : 4.5 g/l

type : Red wooded

pack : Bottle closure : Cork

John Platter 2007 - 3 Stars

in the vineyard : This, our maiden vintage Pinotage, is entirely from a single block of vineyards on the Helderberg Mountain at the heart of the estate on which we are based in Stellenbosch. The vines are over 30 years old and are of an age that allows for spice and fruit to impact in equal volumes. Green harvest thinning was carried-out sufficiently early in the growing cycle, allowing for focused development of a smaller yield (+/- 40 hl / ha). At harvest, all grapes were hand-picked into small lug-bins, before being hand-sorted.

about the harvest: The 2006 vintage was a really ideal one climatically. Hot weeks when we needed them, cooler spells when we needed those, higher rainfall and a longer ripening season than the much hotter 2004 & 2005 vintages. The result was a combination of extremely healthy fruit and beautiful, balanced flavours.

