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Bellingham Dragons Lair 2005

The age old legend of the valiant St Georges who defeated the rancorous dragon that guarded a captive fair maiden in its fearful lair in the Groot Drakenstein Mountains is still recounted in the valley of Franschhoek. Centuries later, Bellingham was born in this very valley that is now famous for wine. The Legends range captures the mystery and enchantment of this fabled era.

Best enjoyed at 16° C and will benefit by decanting an hour before drinking.



variety : Shiraz | 88% Shiraz, 10% Mourvedre, 2% Viognier
winery : Bellingham Wines
winemaker : Niël Groenewald
wine of origin : Coastal
analysis : **alc :** 14.5 % vol **rs :** 5.69 g/l **pH :** 3.51 **ta :** 6.04 g/l
type : Red **wooded**
pack : Bottle **closure :** Cork

2009 Berlin Wine Trophy - Gold Medal
2008 International Wine & Spirit Competition - Bronze Medal
2008 Old Mutual Trophy Awards - Bronze Medal (75/100)
Monde Selection Awards, Brussels 2008 - Silver Medal
2008 Swiss International Air Lines Wine Awards – Bronze Award

ageing : Assertive yet approachable already promising intriguing secondary maturation characteristics and further complexity and integration for up to 10 years in a temperature controlled cellar.

in the vineyard : Age of Vines: Between 10 and 15 years old.
Climate: Cool growing season with long, slow ripening period.
Soils: Predominantly Shale

about the harvest: Varietals were harvested separately by hand at an average ripeness of between 24º and 26º B. The average yield was 7-8 tons/ha.

in the cellar : Varietals were fermented separately in stainless steel tanks. Malolactic fermentation took place in barrel. 50% new wood and 50% second fill French oak barrels were used. Varietals were blended together and received further wood maturation in oak barrels for 18 months.