

Radford Dale Gravity 2006

In an era where over-blown, in-your-face wines too often take precedence over individually crafted and complex wines, our standard bearer dares to be singular. We have strived for equilibrium, between natural sweetness of fruit and integration of structure.

Each varietal contributes its unique facets; the Shiraz its persevering spiciness and its gutsy, supple body; the Cabernet its blueberry backbone and dense, ripe tannins; the Merlot its deep red-berry fruit and suave mouth-feel and the invisible Viognier adding a polished sheen to the tannins and an aromatic lift to the spice of the Shiraz. All knitted together by patient, careful maturation.

This wine bears the hallmark of the region it was reared in and the mineral soils in which it has its roots. Entirely selfish, it is made with our own palates in mind. Even idealists sometimes have to keep the best for themselves...

variety : Shiraz | 50% Shiraz, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, Viognier

winery : The Winery of Good Hope

winemaker : Team Effort

wine of origin : Stellenbosch

analysis : alc : 15.0 % vol rs : 1.8 g/l pH : 3.7 ta : 5.4 g/l

type : Red **style :** Dry **wooded**

pack : Bottle **closure :** Screwcap

in the vineyard : 2006 was one of those vintages we wished we had every year. After a cold winter, with excellent rainfall, Spring gave rise to an excellent and even flowering. The Summer, with its customary long hot days, was characterised by its cooler than usual nights. This gave rise to a longer ripening season and grapes with a beautiful natural balance. Picking was up to 2 weeks later in '06 than in '05.

Each parcel of these vines is situated on ocean-facing, mountainous slopes of the premium Stellenbosch Appellation. These relatively cooler maritime areas of Stellenbosch benefit from the cooling influence of the ocean, the sanitizing breezes and the relative altitude. Yields were kept low, at around 30-35 Hl/Ha.

about the harvest: All grapes are hand-picked and rigorously hand-selected over a sorting table. Not a single grape finds its way into this wine unintentionally.