

De Trafford Blueprint Shiraz 2008

Medium deep, bright red colour. Upfront wild berry fruit, cinnamon and nutmeg nose. A little lighter than the 2007 vintage, but still full, soft, elegant palate packed with complex, sweet ripe fruit and a spicy overlay.

Ideal with a variety of rich and slightly spicy meat dishes.

variety : Shiraz | 100% Shiraz

winery : De Trafford Wines

winemaker : David Trafford

wine of origin : Stellenbosch

analysis : alc : 15.15 % vol rs : 1.7 g/l pH : 3.76 ta : 5.2 g/l va : 0.59 g/l so2 : 83 mg/l fso2 : 26 mg/l

type : Red **style :** Dry **taste :** Mineral **wooded**

pack : Bottle **closure :** Cork

ageing : Probably best between 2011 and 2015.

in the vineyard : vineyard blocks

Mostly from the neighbouring Keermont vineyard. A north east facing block. 10 yr old vines on 7 wire vertical trellis, clone SH9 on 101.14 rootstock. A new young vineyard 3yr on similar slope and soil. SH470 & 174 on 101.14 rootstock. Soil deep red Hutton, medium potential decomposed granite. Yield 4 tons / hect (29 hl/ha) A little from our new "Tip Top Mont Fleur" vineyard. Steep stony north west facing slope with narrow rows.

Yield 5 tons/hect (36 hl/ha).

8% Petit Verdot included

Typical cold, wet winter followed by a normal growing season with enough rain and warm weather to produce good, balanced growth. As in 2007 the Shiraz seemed to relish the knife-edge harvest conditions with small heat waves alternating with short, wet, cold spells. Though overall a little wetter over the harvest period. It seemed to bring out a spiciness and elegance similar to 2007, just a little softer and less intense.

about the harvest: Harvest date: 22/2/08 - 14/3/08 @ 23.9 - 26.2° B. Handpicking into 20 kg lugboxes.

