

Simonsig Vin de Liza 2009

Bright shiny brilliant gold colour. The nose shows rich honeyed fruit with layers of dried apricots, baked apples and sun-dried raisins. There are perfumed aromas which are complemented by a seductive nutty oak spiciness. The palate is silky smooth with a delicious earthy, wet river stone minerality which keeps the sweetness well balanced. A beautifully well integrated wine with layered complexity and a seamless texture.

This is a Noble late harvest in the classic drier wood matured style of Sauternes.

Normally served with dessert at the end of a gourmet meal, but can also be enjoyed on its own in front of the fire when you want a special treat.

variety : Sauvignon Blanc | 65% Sauvignon Blanc, 35% Semillon

winery : Simonsig Family Vineyards

winemaker : Johan Malan

wine of origin : Stellenbosch

analysis: alc : 12.28 % vol rs : 138.6 g/l pH : 3.93 ta : 6.4 g/l

type : Fortified **style :** Sweet **taste :** Fruity

pack : Bottle **closure :** Cork

2008

2011 Platter's Guide: 3.5 stars

2006

Winemakers' Choice Awards 2007: Diamond Award

International Wine and Spirit Competition 2007: Silver Best in Class

Veritas 2007: Bronze Medal

2008 Platter's Guide: 4.5 stars

Veritas 2008: Silver Medal

2005

Wine Magazine – July 2006: 3.5 stars

Veritas 2006: Silver Medal

Platter 4.5 star

2002

Vinomania Wine Tasting, Moscow: October 2003 - Gold Medal

2003

Veritas 2004 - Silver Medal

ageing : Perfect to enjoy now but further cellaring would be highly rewarded.

in the vineyard : Frans Malan made his first Noble late Harvest at Simonsig in 1979 using Chenin Blanc. The 1979 vintage was characterised by Botrytis developing in many different grape varieties. Pinotage was one of them and to this day it remains the only NLH ever made from Pinotage. Over the years different grape varieties were used like Bukettraube and Rhine Riesling. More recently Simonsig has been making its NLH in a classic drier food friendly style like the famous French Sauterne wines.

Vintage Description

The ideal cooler conditions were similar to 2007 and 1997 and the results is wines which were picked riper without the risks of losing the characteristics herbaceous Sauvignon Blanc fruits. This means there are riper and more complex flavours at higher intensity levels. Cooler weather also benefited flavours in Semillon and lower yields also helped to bring more intensity. Only twelve rows were left for botrytis and left to ripen over 40° to use in the Vin de Liza. 2009 was a difficult year for the formation of botrytis that resulted that lots of grapes were lost due to grey rot.

about the harvest: The concentrated Botrytis berries were hand picked and hand



selected in the vineyard.

in the cellar : At the cellar a team of 12 people did a painstaking second hand selection on a sorting table. It was left on the skins for 48 hours to allow the raisined berries to swell out and extract the exquisite flavours and concentrated sugar (40° Balling). Pressing is very time consuming and it yields a meagre 480 litres per 1000 kilograms. Fermentation followed by maturation in French oak lasts 12 months.

Simonsig Family Vineyards

Stellenbosch

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