

Noble Hill Merlot 2008

The result is a deep, clear colour, intense smoky aroma, and fruitful yet structured flavour

variety : Merlot | 100% Merlot

winery : Noble Hill Wine Estate

winemaker : Bernard le Roux

wine of origin : Simonsberg-Paarl

analysis : alc : 14.2 % vol rs : 3.7 g/l pH : 3.59 ta : 5.4 g/l

type : Red **style :** Dry **body :** Soft **wooded**

pack : Bottle **closure :** Cork

Veritas Awards Silver Medal

Platter's South African Wine Guide 4 Stars

in the vineyard : Our Merlot is grown on a single vineyard which has produced fantastic wines vintage after vintage since being planted in 1998. The block is somewhat of an enigma, ripening almost perfectly evenly without significant intervention or irrigation management. I am sure that viticulturists all over the world wish they had it this good!

Despite being an easy vineyard to manage, we give this vineyard a great deal of attention and love, especially with respect to leaf-plucking. This is done manually three to four times per year in order to expose the berries to sun earlier and reduce herbaceous and under-ripe character in the wine.

about the harvest: Harvesting this block is almost as easy as growing it, and in 2008 we took 6 tons per hectare at 24° Balling.

