

Neethlingshof Cabernet Sauvignon / Merlot 2009

Colour: Dark ruby

Aroma: Ample plum, cherry and blackcurrant on the nose.

Palate: Rich and full with ripe fruit flavours supported by soft tannins.

A delicious all-rounder that will partner both red and white meat dishes, as well as pasta and mild cheeses.

variety : Cabernet Sauvignon | 62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 38% Merlot

winery : Neethlingshof Wine Estate

winemaker : De Wet Viljoen

wine of origin : Stellenbosch

analysis : alc : 13.47 % vol rs : 4.6 g/l pH : 3.6 ta : 5.3 g/l

type : Red **style :** Dry **body :** Full **taste :** Fruity **wooded**

pack : Bottle **closure :** Cork

ageing : The wine is ready to drink now, but will gain complexity and character with cellaring for a further three to four years.

in the vineyard : Both grape varieties grow in Tukulu soils on south-western and south-eastern slopes, with the Cabernet Sauvignon at 120m to 150m above sea level, and the Merlot at 290m above sea level. The Cabernet Sauvignon vines were planted between 1991 and 1993, and the Merlot vines in 1985. Both are trellised onto a five-wire vertical fence-type system.

about the harvest: The Cabernet Sauvignon vines, which yielded 5 tons per hectare, were irrigated, while the Merlot vines, with its low yield of 4 tons per hectare, grow under dryland conditions. Both grape varieties were harvested by hand and machine. The Cabernet sauvignon was picked at 23,9° Balling, and the Merlot at 24° Balling.

in the cellar : The two varieties were fermented separately in rotation tanks at 25° to 28°C. After malolactic fermentation was completed, both varietals were aged in second-fill French oak for a period of eight months.



Neethlingshof Wine Estate

Stellenbosch

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www.neethlingshof.co.za

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