

## Lanzerac Merlot 2011

The 2010 Merlot have an excellent deep red colour, with ripe red berries, cocoa, slight mint and chocolate on the nose. On the palate the wine shows a good balance tannin structure, rich body with fruit and a lingering aftertaste.

Duck, venison, casseroles, mature cheeses

**variety :** Merlot | 92% Merlot

**winery :** Lanzerac

**winemaker :** Wynand Lategan

**wine of origin :** Stellenbosch

**analysis :** alc : 14.78 % vol rs : 3.1 g/l pH : 3.55 ta : 6.0 g/l

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

**pack :** Bottle **size :** 750ml **closure :** Cork

**ageing :** The Merlot will benefit with 3 to 5 years maturation.

**in the vineyard :** The Lanzerac Merlot 2011 was sourced from two different vineyard blocks, D6A and D6B from Lanzerac in the Jonkershoek Valley. Both the Lanzerac block were 17 years old in 2011 and covers an area of 4.32 hectares. The yield for the 2011 vintage was 5.48 tons/hectare. The 2 blocks sits at an altitude of 165m - 320 meters above sea level with mainly deep red decomposed granite soils. All pruning is done by hand.

**about the harvest:** Harvesting is done by hand to ensure that only healthy and fully ripe grapes reach the cellar. Harvesting for the 2011 Merlot was done from middle to late February.

**in the cellar :** Upon arrival at the cellar the grape bunches are hand sorted before destemming, the loose berries undergo a further hand sorting before it is lightly crushed. Fermentation took place in stainless steel tanks. Regular pump-overs (3 times a day) are done to extract colour and flavour. The Merlot was fermented dry on the skins before pressing. The free run wine was kept apart from the press fraction.

A part of the Merlot wine underwent malolactic fermentation in barrels, while the rest completed MLF in tank. A Selection of new, 2nd fill and 3rd fill French oak barrels were used to matured the Merlot for 12 months. Regular rackings resulted in excellent integration between wood, fruit and tannins.



### Lanzerac

Stellenbosch

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[www.lanzerac.co.za](http://www.lanzerac.co.za)