

Morgenster Estate Reserve 2010

Colour: Bright, deep plum red. Vibrant, youthful appearance.

Nose: An explosion of fruit and perfume. There are blackcurrants and raspberry notes intermingled with rose petal and jasmine flavours. Underlying layers of cherry and violet are strengthened by more classical licorice, thyme, forest floor aromas.

Palate: Offerings of great opulence, balanced perfectly with a natural acidity that is the backbone to this age worthy wine. Once in the mouth, classical aromas spread, showing pencil shavings and earthy undertones with a more prominent concentration of sweet cherry and blackcurrant. Vanilla, mocha and some oak hover in the background.

Most young bold Bordeaux blends pair well with something hearty. Big flavours abound and team well with a prime piece of beef, lamb, venison or duck. It is also a wine to sip on its own to enjoy uncovering the secrets of its complexity.

variety : Merlot | 48% Merlot, 25% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Cabernet Franc, 7% Petit Verdot

winery : Morgenster Estate

winemaker : Henry Kotzé

wine of origin :

analysis : alc : 14.6 % vol rs : 2.70 g/l pH : 3.47 ta : 6.8 g/l

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

pack : Bottle **size :** 0 **closure :** Cork

Stephen Tanzer 2015: 92+ points

Taj Classic Wine Trophy 2014 : Bacchus Trophy

Platter Guide 2013 : 4 ½ stars

Tim Atkin 2012 : 94

Novare SA Terroir Wine Award 2013: Top Red Blend in Stellenbosch, one of the Top 5 Estate Wines in SA Top 100 SA Wine Challenge

The Wine Advocate 2013: 90 points

ageing : The 2010 Bordeaux blends are winemaker Henry Kotzé 's first for Morgenster. Shaped in collaboration with the estate's consultant winemaker, Pierre Lurton of Chateau Cheval Blanc, the wines showcase the Estate's philosophy of letting the vintage determine the blend. Kotzé believes in a minimalistic style of winemaking which he says suits the grapes and the area, a principle held by his predecessor. His wines are therefore in harmony with earlier vintages stored in Morgenster's famed cellar where they await re-release when owner Giulio Bertrand believes they have aged to their potential. On first release the 2010 blends are still youthful and vibrant with a natural high acidity, similar to the 2003 vintage. Already well integrated without any overpowering flavours and with velvety smooth fine tannins, this is expected to be a stand out vintage. The beautiful grip coming from the sturdy Schapenberg terroir, eloquently wrapping itself around every taste bud and enticing the senses, makes this a wine to remember. There is no doubt that it will go beyond 20 years.

in the vineyard : A slow dry January followed a very wet and windy November. The end of February and early March saw a long hot spell of 10 days rock the ripening. With sugar accumulation hurtling into 5th gear, picking was finished in record time. It was a smaller than usual crop but excellent quality prevailed. The Morgenster 2010 vintage can be tipped as a winner.

Vineyards: Stellenbosch
Region: Helderberg ward

in the cellar : 18 months in tight grain French oak barrels, around 60% in new French oak. Bottled on 9 December 2011.

