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Cirrus Syrah 2011



Dark rich plum notes with a beautiful bouquet of floral jasmine, aided by an underlying mocha that creates a fantastic complex nose.

The rich plum fruit and mocha from the nose are prominent on the palate. There are subtle floral notes that are well-integrated with the dark fruit flavours and subtle oak spice. This wine shows fantastic palate length ends with an elegant, well-structured and full finish.

"In the early 1990's I met Ray Duncan and his sons David and Tim, the owners of one of Napa's great wineries, Silver Oak. Over the years our friendship grew which led us to establish the Cirrus Wine Company. Since our first vintage in 2003, I believe we succeeded in capturing the very essence of a Shiraz influenced by both Stellenbosch and Napa." – Jean Engelbrecht

variety : Shiraz | 97% Syrah, 3% Viognier
winery : Guardian Peak
winemaker : Coenie Snyman
wine of origin : Stellenbosch
analysis : **alc :** 15.23 % vol **rs :** 2.1 g/l **pH :** 3.57 **ta :** 5.4 g/l
type : Red **style :** Dry **body :** Full **taste :** Fruity **wooded**
pack : Bottle **size :** 750ml **closure :** Cork

Concept
As Jean Engelbrecht gained knowledge and an understanding of Californian wine, and in particular those from Napa, he was drawn to the wines of Silver Oak Cellars, their philosophy and the focused way they ran their operation. Drawing a parallel to his own family estate in South Africa, Rust en Vrede, he noted that both wineries focused on producing only red wine, and even further, concentrating on a specific wine – Cabernet Sauvignon for Silver Oak and a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Shiraz, and Merlot for Rust en Vrede.

Inevitably Jean met Ray Duncan, proprietor of Silver Oak, and a friendship was formed which included visits to both continents. The synergy that developed between the two families, their mutual love for wine, and the challenge to produce a wine together, led to the formation of The Cirrus Wine Company.

As the wine was to be produced in South Africa, it was a natural decision to produce a Syrah. The view taken by the partners was one of starting off small, and to ensure that the venture was laying a strong and solid foundation for the future. The maiden vintage of this wine was in 2003. This wine is the expression of the long-term view between two families that believe wine, above all should bring people together.

in the cellar : This wine was matured for 18 months in a combination of new French and American oak 300 litre barrels and is made in a typical Rhone style.