

Stellekaya First Release Merlot 1999

A medium-bodied wine. Wood and fruit are in balance. Lingering aftertaste.

variety : Merlot | Merlot

winery : Stellekaya Winery

winemaker : Jan Boland Coetzee

wine of origin : Stellenbosch

analysis : alc : 13.7 % vol rs : 2.1 g/l pH : 3.4 ta : 5.5 g/l

type : Red **wooded**

pack : Bottle

ageing : The wine is drinking well now but will benefit with ageing for 3 more years. Drink by 2003.

in the vineyard : 8 year old vines are situated on south-western slopes of Stellenbosch Mountain. Vines are trellised by the moveable 6-wire fence system. Supplementary irrigation was used.

Climate: Average temperature in February 21.5°C

Annual Rainfall: 650mm

Soil: Tukulu

about the harvest: In the cool of the early morning of March the grapes were handpicked into lug boxes each carrying 20kg of grapes.

in the cellar : The grapes were fermented, followed by malolactic fermentation, in stainless steel tanks, where regular pump-overs took place. The wine was matured for 16 months in new and 2nd fill French oak barrels.

