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Delaire Graff Laurence Graff Reserve 2011

The nose is characterised by freshness and spice, vanilla pod, dark chocolate and hay aromas. Silky and smooth on entry, the wine unsheathes a flinty minerality with subtle tannins and huge length and persistence. The flavour profile is dominated by tangy, ripe, almost over-ripe red berries (strawberries, raspberries and mulberries) together with brambles and cassis – classical Cabernet flavours expected in a top quality claret.

variety : Cabernet Sauvignon | 100% Cabernet Sauvignon
winery : Delaire Graff Estate
winemaker : Morne Vrey
wine of origin : Stellenbosch
analysis : **alc :** 14.56 % vol **rs :** 2.7 g/l **pH :** 3.47 **ta :** 5.9 g/l
type : Red **style :** Dry
pack : Bottle **size :** 750ml **closure :** Cork

in the vineyard : The 2011 conditions, as challenging as they were, resulted in grapes with beautiful concentrated flavours. Yields were down, but winemakers were generally very pleased with the quality of the grapes.

about the harvest: The grapes, grown in Delaire's mountain vineyards, were handpicked in the crisp hours of the early morning.

in the cellar : The wine was produced with meticulous care. Grapes were hand sorted. Whole berry fermentation and basket pressing ensured gentle extraction of fruit. A rigorous selection process identified only the best 5 barrels from 21. The wine was matured in 80% new oak for 20 months and thereafter blended with 5% additional Bordeaux varieties to stiffen the mid-palate and enhance eight and oral texture.

