

Asara The White Cab 2014

White peach whiffs, with tropical fruit and notes of fresh farm bread and butter. A fruit-sweet entry of dessert peach, with mouth-watering braeburn apples and pear. Zesty to the finish.

variety : Cabernet Sauvignon | 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

winery : Asara Wine Estate and Hotel

winemaker : Francois Joubert

wine of origin : Stellenbosch

analysis : alc : 12.5 % vol rs : 4.6 g/l pH : 3.53 ta : 5.6 g/l

type : White **style :** Off Dry **taste :** Fruity

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

Asara's Speciality range stays true to vineyard of origin by means of minimal cellar handling. The property is located in the Polkadraai Hills, whose primary terroir influence is granite based soils and undulating hills.

in the vineyard : Vineyards

Single vineyard planting at an altitude of 100m. East-facing rows restrict sun exposure on the bunch zone. The canopy is managed to further occlude the sun, and the soil type, Tukululu, was selected specifically for its water retention capacity. Up until final ripening, vineyard micromanagement aims to slow the fruit development phase. Five days prior to harvest the canopy is broken to increase sunlight exposure on the grapes.

Story

It's a little known fact that one of the world's best-loved red wine varieties; the masculine, muscular Bordeaux cultivar Cabernet Sauvignon has its roots in a white wine of similar celebrity. DNA profiling at Davis University in 1997 demonstrated conclusively that Cabernet Sauvignon was a cross between Cabernet Franc and none other than Bordeaux's Sauvignon Blanc.

That the variety could be vinified as a white wine seemed obvious to Asara's winemaking team. Setting aside a vineyard of optimal quality, with conditions known to enable extended ripening, the team created the first white Cabernet Sauvignon that South Africa had seen. The interest was immediate, the profile was unique, and Asara earned its place in winemaking history. Asara's Specialty range is an eclectic collection of wines that represent a twist on regional specialities. Niche and unique, the range reflects the quality of an estate whose vinous history dates back to 1691.

about the harvest: The grapes are harvested in the cool of morning at 22° Balling, showing minimal colour development and optimal skin integrity. The vineyard yields an average of 8 tons per hectare of healthy, vibrant grapes.

in the cellar : From point of picking, the cold chain is maintained. Whole bunches are packed by hand in layers into a press to avoid bruising, and a gentle pressing extracts approximately half of the juice in the grapes. Only 500l of juice is claimed for use in the Cabernet Sauvignon Blanc. Fermentation ensues in tank, and after settling the wine remains on the lease for four months. Matured in tank for optimal preservation of fruit flavour integrity.

Style: Blanc de Noir

