

Morgenster Lourens River Valley 2003

Colour: Deep ruby-red.

Nose: Extremely elegant aromas of ripe red fruits, plum, cinnamon, liquorice, blond tobacco and a strong, mineral streak.

Palate: Silky sweet in the mouth, with beautiful ripe fruit that's still young and wound tight. The finish is 'text book' fine-grain tannins and superb subtle persistence. Give this wine some special treatment by decanting it about an hour prior to serving and it will reward your efforts by emphasising these characteristics.

Rich, but uncomplicated Italian traditions; think wild mushrooms and truffle oil, basil and rocket salad, roast lamb with black olive paste and garlic, duck and game bird.

variety : Merlot | 70% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Cabernet Franc

winery : Morgenster Estate

winemaker : Marius Lategan

wine of origin :

analysis : alc : 14.0 % vol rs : 2.4 g/l pH : 3.58 ta : 6.3 g/l

type : Red **style :** Dry **body :** Medium **taste :** Fruity **wooded**

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

The Best Wine in Japan Competition (Connoisseurs Category) 2013: Platinum

The Best Wine in Japan Competition (Professional Category) 2013: Gold

Platter Guide 2007: 4½ stars

Classic Wine Trophy 2007: Gold

Michelangelo Wine Awards 2006: Gold

American Wine & Spirit Wholesaler Competition 2010: Gold

Steve Tanzer 2007: 90 points

The Wine Advocate 2007: 90 points

ageing : Still has lots of length. It was a premium vintage with perfect condition allowing the wine to develop nicely over the next 7 years.

At Morgenster we employ a rigorous three tier selection process; handpicked in the vineyards, pre-crush sorting table selection of bunches as they enter the winery and again after barrel maturation which dictates a single minded quality focus for the Lourens River Valley – in fact it was the first label launched by Morgenster's owner Giulio Bertrand with the 1998 vintage. Bertrand's exacting quality standards, have if anything, become more meticulous over the years as the fledgling brand begins to make its mark in both the local and international markets on the right track to achieving the audacious vision of producing two world-class red blends.

In style, this wine is a classic, elegantly crafted Cape Bordeauxstyle blend. The wines of Morgenster are hand crafted to make the most from the combination of our great terroir, international expertise, pure passion and dedication.

in the vineyard : An outstanding vintage offering concentrated, structured and generous reds. Even growth and ripening resulted in ripe tannin structure and good skin concentration.

Vineyards: Stellenbosch

Region: Helderberg ward

in the cellar : 100% barrel matured in 300 litre oak, from French coopers for 13 months.

