

Eikendal Merlot 2013

The wine has an attractive nose, which reminds one of violets, plums, cherries and peppery spices. On the palate the wine is and full and rounded, with soft tannins and a rich taste of blackberries and plums. The elegant finish is long and pleasant.

Serving Temperature: 8°C -20°C in red wine glasses.

variety : Merlot | 100% Merlot

winery : Eikendal Vineyards

winemaker : Nico Grobler

wine of origin : Stellenbosch

analysis : alc : 14.26 % vol rs : 2.1 g/l pH : 3.4 ta : 6.4 g/l

type : Red **body :** Full **taste :** Fruity **wooded**

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

ageing : This wine is drinking well now, and can be enjoyed through 2018 and beyond.

in the vineyard : The vineyard is 165m above sea level. "Koffieklip" soils with a clay layer 1m deep. Planted in an east west row direction. Planting 1.2m x 2.4m. Vertical shoot positioning with spur pruning. Clone 348A. Vineyard age between 8-12 years. Under irrigation. Yield approximately 2kg per vine. Berry aromatic sequence module used for determining ripeness.

about the harvest: Grapes hand-picked in small crates.

in the cellar : Cooled down in pre-cooler to 1° C. Berry sorting into the cellar. No crushing only destemming. Cold soaking for up to 15 days. Long slow fermentations with minimal punchdowns. Malolactic fermentation in the barrel. Matured 16 months in 300 liter custom made Burgundian oak barrels. 20% new oak.

