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Raats Family Cabernet Franc 2013



The nose entices with its perfume and a garrigue character of Cape fynbos, rosemary, lavender and thyme with spicy notes of nutmeg, cloves and star anise. Intense brooding blackberry fruit, graphite and a streak of minerality add to the complexity of the nose. The palate is dominated by blueberry, mulberry, brambles, dark cherries, liquorice and the aniseed and other spices following through from the nose. The palate is complex and textured with fine grained silky tannins balancing the dark berry fruit. Blue- and blackberries dominate the smooth finish with hints of dark chocolate.

Rosemary rubbed grilled lamb chops or leg of lamb, tarragon chicken, duck breasts with cassis and raspberries, venison with blackberry sauce, flourless chocolate cake.

variety : Cabernet Franc | 100% Cabernet Franc
winery : Raats Family Wines
winemaker : Bruwer Raats & Gavin Bruwer Slabbert
wine of origin : Stellenbosch
analysis : **alc :** 14.5 % vol **rs :** 3.2 g/l **pH :** 3.43 **ta :** 6.2 g/l
type : Red **style :** Dry **wooded**
pack : Bottle **size :** 750ml **closure :** Cork

- 2013 - scored 93 points by Tim Atkin - 2016 South Africa Special Report **(September 2016)**.
- 2013 - scored 90 points by Wine Spectator **(30 September 2016).**
- 2013 - Top 100 Grand Cru National Champion 'Best in Class' **(April 2016)**.
- 2013 - Top 100 status/Double Platinum Awards **(April 2016)**.
- 2013 - scored 93 points by Neal Martin from The Wine Advocate (**December 2015**).
- 2013 - rated 4½ stars in John Platter 2016.
- 2012 - scored 94 points by Tim Atkin **(2015)**.
- 2012 - scored 92 points by Stephen Tanzer **(June 2015)**.
- 2012 - TOP100 SA wines **(April 2015)**.
- 2012 - rated 4½ stars in John Platter 2015.
- 2012 - scored 91 points by Neal Martin from The Wine Advocate **(October 2014)**.
- 2012 - scored 95 points by Christian Eedes from Winemag **(October 2014).**
- 2011 - scored 93 points by Tim Atkin **(July 2014).**
- 2011 - rated 5 stars in John Platter 2014.
- 2011 - scored 90 points by The Wine Spectator **(January 2014)**
- 2011 - scored 90 points The Wine Enthusiast **(March 2014)**.
- 2011 - scored 92 points by Neal Martin from Robert Parker **(October 2013)**.

ageing :

7 to 10 years

in the vineyard :

Soil Type: 100% Decomposed Dolomite Granite.
Age of vines: 18 - 25 years.
Trellised vines and no irrigation.

All from Stellenbosch and grown only on decomposed dolomite granite, which gives a great acidity and freshness to the wine and adds minerality to the finish.

about the harvest:

Picking Date: Individual vineyard blocks each hand-picked at perfect ripeness the last week in February till the first week in March.

Grape Sugar: 24° - 25° Balling
Acidity: 6.0 g/l
pH at Harvest: 3.45
Yield: 6 - 7t/ha

in the cellar :

Grapes were hand sorted three times, crushed and left to cold soak on the skins for five days. After fermentation the grapes are basket pressed and allowed to undergo malolactic fermentation in stainless steel tanks and then aged for 18 months before bottling.

Fermentation Temperature: 28°C

Wood Ageing
18 months in French Vicard and Mercury oak barrels (25% new, 25% second, 25% third fill and 25% fourth fill).