

Vergelegen Reserve Merlot 2012

Ripe plum colour with a ruby rim. The nose shows ripe fruit flavours, black cherries, plum, spice and a touch of chocolate. The ripeness of the fruit is balanced by fresh fruit acidity and soft wood/fruit tannins. The aftertaste is long and lasting.

variety : Merlot | 86% Merlot, 9% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Cabernet Franc

winery : Vergelegen Wines

winemaker : Andre van Rensburg

wine of origin : Stellenbosch

analysis : alc : 14.48 % vol rs : 2.6 g/l pH : 3.52 ta : 5.7 g/l

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

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

ageing : Accessible now but will continue to improve over the next decade.

in the vineyard : The grapes were all selected from the Vergelegen vineyards; the Merlot from Rooiland, Cabernet Sauvignon from Stone Pine.

about the harvest: The fruit was picked at peak physiological ripeness to avoid the necessity of adding acid and prevent the extraction of hard tannins.

in the cellar : The grape juice was inoculated with two yeast strains, D21 and D254. Fermentation took place at a consistent 25°C. The young wine was left to macerate on its skins for a further 7 weeks before pressing. Malolactic fermentation was induced in stainless steel tanks and was followed by maturation in 225l French oak barrels for 16 months before bottling on 13 October 2013.

Vergelegen Wines

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