

Laborie Merlot 2015

The elegant Merlot shows aromas of black cherries, plums and dried herbs, with a nuance of smoke. The palate is vibrant and well-rounded with silky tannins and a fragrant, elegant finish.

Enjoy the wine on its own, with pasta dishes that have a tomato-based sauce, roasted duck or chicken, or grilled steak.

variety : Merlot | 100% Merlot

winery : Laborie Wines

winemaker : The Winemaking Team

wine of origin : Western Cape

analysis : alc : 14.19 % vol rs : 3.28 g/l pH : 3.44 ta : 5.96 g/l

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

pack : Bottle **size :** 0 **closure :** Screwcap

in the vineyard : The winter preceding the 2015 vintage was characterized by maximum hours in the optimal range. Bud break was 10 days early. Spring to November was warm on average, but the entire growing season and most of harvest experienced cool evenings. This was fantastic for both flavour development as well as synthesis of phenols, like tannin and colour, which accompanied bright fruit and perfect acidity in the final result. December had warm days and unusually cool evenings, but it was also very dry with the Cape forgoing the usual December and January rains. The moisture constraint in the root zone activated hormonal responses in the vines that sped up ripening even further while ensuring great concentration. Cool evenings meant the vines recovered from the heat of the day and delicate aromatics were preserved. The surprise harvest saw everyone stretched to the limit. Nonetheless, care was taken with each parcel of fruit and the Laborie team met the challenge with aplomb.

in the cellar :

This wine was matured in oak for 8 to 10 months.

