

Laborie Merlot / Cabernet Sauvignon 2015

This wine is smooth, elegant and juicy. It has aromas of raspberry, black olive, crushed herbs and cigar box. The prominent tannin structure carries hints of sweet, cedary oak on the palate that flows seamlessly into a fresh, lingering finish.

Enjoy this wine on its own or with a variety of roasted meat dishes, barbeques or pasta with a tomato-based sauce.

variety : Merlot | 55% Merlot, 45% Cabernet Sauvignon

winery : Laborie Wines

winemaker : The Winemaking Team

wine of origin : Western Cape

analysis : alc : 14.4 % vol rs : 4.0 g/l pH : 3.48 ta : 5.84 g/l

type : Red **style :** Dry **body :** Soft **wooded**

pack : Bottle **size :** 0 **closure :** Cork

ageing : This wine can be savoured now or cellared for up to two years from vintage.

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 10 to 12 months.

