

Asara Vineyard Collection Merlot 2014

A complex wine, with fresh red berries and cinnamon on the nose. Raspberries, sweet cherries and subtle hints of mint and vanilla unfold throughout this layered wine. A smooth, well balanced finish leaves your palate lingering for another sip. Enjoy now or age up to 6 years.

variety : Merlot | 100% Merlot

winery : Asara Wine Estate and Hotel

winemaker : Danielle le Roux

wine of origin : Stellenbosch

analysis : alc : 14.00 % vol rs : 4.9 g/l pH : 3.56 ta : 5.60 g/l

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

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

2013 Veritas Wine Awards - Bronze Award

ageing : Enjoy now or age up to 6 years.

Asara's Vineyard Range stays true to vineyard of origin by means of minimal cellar handling. THE property is located in the Polkadraai Hills, whose primary terroir influence is granite based soils and undulating hills.

in the vineyard : The Merlot vineyards are planted at 130m above sea-level in cool, nutrient-rich Tukululo soils. Located on a crest, the vineyards receive constant exposure to the sun, contributing to ripeness and richness of flavour in the grapes. Leaves are picked out twice during the berry set to increase sunlight exposure while still giving adequate shade. The blocks are harvested twice to avoid any under ripe grapes. The vineyards are 14 years of age and yields at an average 8 tons per hectare.

about the harvest: Harvest takes place in the early hours of morning into small lugs. The grapes are cooled overnight, and fermentation takes place at 25 degrees C, preserving freshness and elegance of flavour.

in the cellar : Malolactic fermentation ensues in tank, and the wine is racked immediately to preserve fruit purity. Medium toast French oak is used to mature the wine, 10% of these being new 225l barriques and the balance in 2nd and 3rd fill. The wine is bottled after 14-16 months.

