

## DMZ Syrah 2016

Deep, purple core. Rich, berry fruit nose with lots of ripe, red plum and whiffs of white pepper. Some floral notes in the background, including violets, lavender and spring blossoms. Full in the mouth with tremendous youthful vigour. Layers of berry fruit with developing spices of pepper, cinnamon, clove and vanilla. Gentle oak integration shows and supports the elegance and roundness at this early age.

**variety :** Shiraz | 100% Shiraz

**winery :** De Morgenzon

**winemaker :** Carl van der Merwe

**wine of origin :** Stellenbosch

**analysis :** alc : 14.0 % vol rs : 1.8 g/l pH : 3.63 ta : 5.1 g/l

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

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

2012:

Gold International Wine Challenge 2014

Gold International Wine & Spirits Competition 2014

91 points Wine & Spirits

90 points Tim Atkin MW South Africa Report 2014

Silver Decanter 2014

Silver Veritas 2014

88 points Stephen Tanzer's Wine Cellar

2011:

89 points Stephen Tanzer's Wine Cellar

87 points Wine Spectator

88 points Wine & Spirits

**in the vineyard :** These vineyards are situated on the farm DeMorgenzon in the Stellenboschkloof. Soils are mostly weathered granite which gives the resultant wines a natural exuberance and youthful vigour. Planted in 2004 the trellised vineyard is managed to ensure natural high acidity and full flavour concentration. The yield was 8 tons per hectare. 2013 was a great year at DeMorgenzon. Vines entered the growing season with excellent potential for growth following good winter rains. Weather conditions during the ripening season were hot and dry, resulting in concentrated wines with depth and complexity.

**about the harvest:** Conditions in 2016 were hot and dry resulting in a rapid harvest. Care had to be taken to harvest as quickly as possible, in an effort to preserve the grape's natural acid and freshness. Due to the dry conditions, the crop quality was excellent, although yields were lower than usual, averaging at around 6 tons per hectare. The grapes were handpicked and selected in the early morning at between 21° and 22° Balling.

**in the cellar :** The grapes were destalked into stainless steel fermentation tanks. A small percentage of bunches were fermented without destalking. Natural fermentation followed with a slight extended maceration on the skins to stabilize the colour and give the wine palate length. Fermentation temperatures were managed between 22°C and 27°C with a combination of punch downs and gentle pump overs to extract colour and flavour from the skins. After fermentation the wine was pressed off the skins and malolactic fermentation was completed in barrel. The wine spent a further 12 months in small French oak barrels, 3000L Fourdré barrels and cement tanks (total 10% new wood).

