

Brookdale Mason Road Syrah 2022

Dried violets and kirsch scent ripe plums, black olives and red cherries on the nose. Delicately savoury from a hint of smoked meat on the undertow. Fresh berry fruit on the palate is buoyed by a plummy acidity. Gently structured, the tannins layer in featherweight and fine along the bright red fruit profile. The finish tails in with a light dusting of black pepper spice, well balanced and refreshing.

variety : Shiraz | 100% Syrah

winery : Brookdale Estate

winemaker : Kiara Scott

wine of origin : Paarl

analysis : alc : 14.56 % vol rs : 2.6 g/l pH : 3.66 ta : 5.1 g/l

type : Red **style :** Dry **taste :** Fragrant **wooded**

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

in the vineyard :

The 2022 vintage will be remembered as a cool season before harvest, followed by a sudden temperature spike from January. Good vineyard practices were followed, and canopies were managed well, which delivered exceptional grape analyses and wine quality. Temperatures rose sharply during early January and accelerated the early cultivars' ripening dates, although we harvested more than a week later than the previous year. Frequent high temperatures during February further contributed to harvest dates shifting sooner and harvesting returned to normal timing by the end of February. We were fortunate not to experience any crop losses or mildew infections.

about the harvest: Grapes were hand-harvested.

in the cellar : The Syrah was hand-harvested in parcels and transferred into open top fermenters. A small percentage of bunches were fermented without destalking. Natural fermentation followed, with a combination of punch downs and 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 barrels and foudres with a short maceration on the skins to stabilize the colour and give the wine palate length. The wine spent a further 8 months in 500 litre and 300 litre French oak barrels and 2500 litre foudre barrels (40% third fill).

