

Neethlingshof Merlot 2021

Colour: Dark ruby.

Aroma: Fresh nose with aromas of black cherry, ripe black plum, tomatoes leaf with coco and hints of smoke.

Enjoyed with wide variety of meals such as grilled chicken or shrimp pasta with light tomato source, kale salad with roasted sweet potatoes and cranberries, or simply chocolate mousse.

variety : Merlot | 100% Merlot

winery : Neethlingshof Wine Estate

winemaker : De Wet Viljoen

wine of origin : Stellenbosch

analysis : alc : 14.35 % vol rs : 3.2 g/l pH : 3.60 ta : 5.7 g/l

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

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

ageing : Ideal for drinking now but will gain character and complexity with the correct cellaring.

in the vineyard : Planted in 2000s, the vines are grafted onto Richter 140 rootstocks. Soils are decomposed granite and sandstone. The vines are vertically trellised on five-wire system. The vineyards are mostly planted on south-east facing slopes around 220m above sea level. The cooling effect of the False Bay breezes are beneficial to the slow ripening of the Merlot.

about the harvest: The grapes were harvested by hand and machine at 24.5° Balling during the beginning of March.

in the cellar : After destalking and crushing, the juice was inoculated with selected pure yeast. Fermentation was about 15 days and took place in rotation tanks at 24 °C to 28°C. After malolactic fermentations, the wine was transferred to 300 -litre French barrels to mature for 18 months. Bottling took place on the 9 March 2023. Total production was 13 400 bottles.



Neethlingshof Wine Estate

Stellenbosch

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