

## Steenberg Merlot 2022

Our 2022 Merlot is a quintessential cool-climate expression of the cultivar: elegant with soft dark fruit and characteristic notes of plum, liquorice, and mulberry with a lively edge. The nose offers cedarwood and lavender, while the broody and deep palate reveals raspberry preserve, umami and spicy clove. The velvety texture is enhanced by a refreshing acidity, while well-integrated, fine tannins add structure and a dry finish luring you back to the glass.

This medium to full-bodied wine will stand up to rich dishes with strong Mediterranean flavours, such as braised and roast meats, tomato-based stews, mature cheese, and briny olives.

**variety :** Merlot | 100% Merlot

**winery :** Steenberg Vineyards

**winemaker :** JD Pretorius

**wine of origin :** Western Cape

**analysis :** alc : 14.73 % vol   rs : 1.8 g/l   pH : 3.56   ta : 5.9 g/l

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

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

2026 Decanter Awards - Platinum

2026 London Wine Competition - Merlot of the Year

**ageing :** Bottle will age well for five to seven years after bottling.

**in the vineyard :** Soil type: Clovelly / Decomposed Granite

Trellising: Elongated Perold

Age of vines: 6-17 years

Pruning: Spur - 2 bud

Yield: 8 ton/ha

Rootstock: Richter 110

**about the harvest:** Intensive suckering and crop reduction helps concentrate the fruit and ensures that the Merlot has good colour and a distinctive character. The grapes were harvested at a sugar level of 24-25°B.

**in the cellar :** 15% of the juice was drawn off before crush / de-stemming to improve flavour and colour. The juice was fermented on the skins for 10 – 14 days, allowing the temperature in the tank to peak at 28°C. After malolactic conversion, the wine was transferred to a combination of 3rd fill and older 225l French oak barrels to mature for an average of 24 months. It then underwent a light fining before bottling in August 2024.



### Steenberg Vineyards

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