

Rupert & Rothschild Classique 2000

A blend of the noble varieties Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Cabernet Franc. Deep, dense ruby colour with inky hues in the centre. Fragrant, mulberry fruit enhanced by a roasted coffee bean and cigarbox bouquet. The fine insistent tannin background ensures the combination of delicacy and power.

variety : Cabernet Sauvignon | 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc

winery : Rupert & Rothschild Vignerons

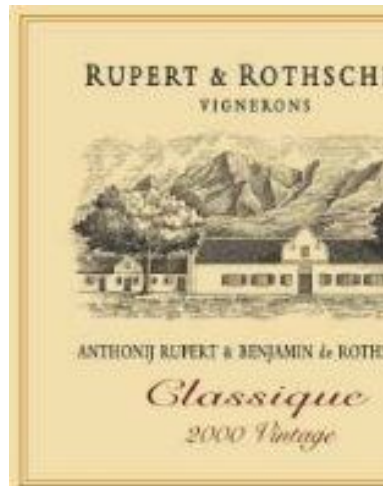
winemaker : Schalk-Willem Joubert

wine of origin : Coastal

analysis : **alc** : 14.0 % vol **rs** : 2.9 g/l **pH** : 3.69 **ta** : 5.2 g/l

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

pack : Bottle



ageing : Under ideal conditions this wine will drink well for the next five to seven years from vintage.

in the vineyard : The majestic vineyards of the Simonsberg and Groot Drakenstein provided the selected blocks for this noble trio, with prime blocks of Merlot being sourced further afield from the surrounding areas of Stellenbosch, Wellington and Darling.

about the harvest: At Rupert & Rothschild picking is done in stages to ensure physiologically healthy fruit and optimum ripeness. Harvesting takes place according to taste and analysis, thus enabling the fruit to express itself in the wine. The age-old method of hand-picking was used to remove the grapes from the vines

in the cellar : Within an hour of picking, the grapes were destemmed and crushed. Fermentation took place in stainless steel tanks. The Cabernet Sauvignon fermented naturally and remained on the skins for a period of 3 weeks prior to being drained and pressed. The bulk of the Merlot also underwent natural fermentation while the remainder was inoculated with specially selected yeast strains. The use of the free-run juice and a portion of the pressed juice ensured complexity and structure. Malolactic fermentation occurred naturally in 225 litre barrels. Harmony and integration of this wine was achieved by early blending of the various components.

Rupert & Rothschild Vignerons

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