



At the centre of the Cape Winelands lies the Simonsberg mountain, a fynbos-rich massif, home to exceptional vineyards since the 17th century. It's on the southern slopes, with unrivaled views over False Bay to Table Mountain, that you will find TOKARA's home vineyards and olive groves.



2019 DIRECTOR'S RESERVE RED

This wine is a blend of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Petit Verdot, 9% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc. The grapes originated from TOKARA's premium vineyards on the slopes of the Simonsberg Mountain outside of Stellenbosch.

CROPPING AND HARVESTING

- Only grapes from the best blocks and from the best parts of these blocks are used.
- The grapes were hand-picked at optimal ripeness between the 21st of February and the 3rd of April.

WINEMAKING

- The grapes were de-stemmed, before first passing across a mechanical sorting table and then a further hand sorting table before being crushed directly into tanks for fermentation using gravity feed and no pumps.
- There is a period of cold maceration for up to 5 days before the fermentation starts spontaneously (without the use of selected yeast strains).
- The grapes were fermented in stainless steel and wooden upright (foudre) fermenters.
- The tanks were given maceration post fermentation if the quality and tannin profile of the wine warranted it.
- The wine was put to barrel for malolactic fermentation after which it was racked, sulphured and put back to barrel for further maturation.
- The wine spent a total of twenty-two months in 54% new French oak - the rest being older French oak barriques. The wine was bottled in January 2021 without fining and a light filtration.

TASTING NOTES:

Displaying an appealing red claret colour with an intense centre and a ruby rim. The nose showcases complex aromas including ripe red and black berry fruit with hints of creamy cassis, cedar wood and toasted oak. The wine enters the palate with incredible purity and focus. Flavours are those of dark cherry, blackberries and ripe plum skin. Sumptuous and full there is a pleasant hint of spice on the mid-palate which leads to fine, firm tannins on the finish.

FOOD PAIRING:

- Grilled ribeye steak served with Béarnaise sauce, and potato Dauphinoise.

ANALYTICS:

- Alc. 14.0%, Residual Sugar 1.9 g/L, T.A. 5.6g/l, pH 3.61



Tim Atkin MW - 94 Points

Stellenbosch (14%) - Tokara use their best blocks to produce this estate blend before making a further barrel selection. Marrying Cabernet Sauvignon with 30% Petit Verdot, Merlot and Cabernet Franc, with ageing in 48% new wood, it's a fine, floral, assertively wooded Bordeaux blend with blackcurrant pastille and blueberry flavours and well-judged tannins. 2023-29

Also: Wine Advocate-92 Pts

