



## Blackwater

2018

# 'DANIEL'

*Grenache | Botrivier - South Africa*



NATURAL



ORGANIC



VEGAN

### Stats

**Grapes:** 100% Grenache  
**Vineyard:** La Motte's Na-Bot Vineyard  
**Vine Age:** 14-years-old  
**Soil Type:** Bokkevald shale intermixed with heavy red clay  
**Viticulture:** Practicing organic  
**Fermentation:** Native – open-top stainless-steel (30-40% whole-cluster)  
**Skin Contact:** 3 weeks  
**Aging:** 13 months in old French 500L & 600L tonneau & one concrete tank  
**Alcohol:** 13.67%  
**pH:** 3.57  
**Total Acidity:** 4.7 g/L  
**Total SO2:** 61 ppm  
**Total Production:** 183 cases  
**UPC:** 6009879826272

### Reviews

Platter's Guide | 93 points  
Tim Atkin, MW | 93 points

### About

Francois named the first vintage of Grenache after the birth of his son in 2017. It remains a vineyard that Francois has known well over the years seeing as the first red wine he had made under the Blackwater label was from this site. The Na-Bot Vineyard in Botrivier is owned by the Rupert family of La Motte in Franschoek. The vineyard has been organically farmed for nearly ten years now and the shale and clay rich soils provide great water retention allowing very little, if any irrigation, to be needed.

The fruit was hand-harvested and primarily destemmed with a little more than one-third of the fruit being left intact. The whole-clusters were intermixed throughout the small parcel ferments and fermentation occurred in open-top stainless-steel tanks without any additions. Sporadic hand punchdowns were used along with daily pumpovers for a gentle but complete extraction of the alluring Grenache fruit. The juice remained on the skins for three weeks prior to being gently pressed to a single concrete tank and a couple of 500L and 600L old French tonneau for maturation. A small addition of sulfur was added in the spring as the only disturbance to the barrels. After a little more than one year of aging the wine was naturally settled in tank and bottled without fining or filtration and just another very small addition of sulfur.

### Tasting Note

This has an almost Pinot Noir-like appearance and bouquet. The aromatics are savory and spicy with ethereal red fruits abounding. Precise notes of brambly raspberries, tarragon and a woodsiness are layered. The palate is well balanced, offering light raspberry, red cherry and peppery flavors repeating to the quite elegant and lightly gripping finish.