



Lourens Family Wines

2021

'LUA ILSE'

Grenache Noir | *Piekenierskloof - South Africa*



NATURAL



ORGANIC



VEGAN

Stats

Grapes: 100% Grenache Noir

Vineyard: Single site in
Piekenierskloof

Vine Age: 17-years-old

Soil Type: Sandstone & pebbly clay

Viticulture: Practicing Organic – dry-
farmed

Fermentation: Native – stainless steel
(25% whole-cluster)

Skin Contact: 14 days

Aging: 10 months in neutral 300L
French barrels

Alcohol: 14%

pH: 3.6

Total Acidity: 4.7 g/L

Total SO₂: 52 ppm

Total Production: 100 cases

UPC: 0781718583190

Reviews

Platter's Guide | 94 points

Tim Atkin, MW | 95 points

The WineMag | 95 points

About

In 2019, Franco was notified that this small, bushvine vineyard had some fruit available from a friend, Xander Grier. This block is on the drive back down to the valley from the site where Franco gets a bit of Chenin for his single-vineyard bottling. This third release, named after his daughter Lua Ilse, continues to be a showstopper. It is one of the most distinguished and singular Grenaches produced in South Africa and in many ways becomes a beacon for others to seek out in terms of its elegance and moreish qualities.

The grapes were hand-harvested and lugged back to the cellar in small picking bins. About 75% of the fruit was destemmed but not crushed with the remaining portion left fully intact. Fermentation occurred without any additions in open top one-ton fermenters with the whole clusters placed atop the destemmed fruit. Franco hand plunged the wine a few times daily for the first four days to get the ferment active. After nearly two weeks on skins the wine was gently pressed to two old 300L French tonneau for aging. After ten months the wine was racked to tank to settle overnight and bottled without fining just a coarse filtration and small sulfur addition.

Tasting Note

The perfume is truly intoxicating, with succulent strawberry and raspberry notes converging with more piquant cranberry fruits. It's an intense yet light wine that is wrapped in pure finesse and sandpaper-like tannins.