



## Storm Point Red Blend

Western Cape – South Africa 2016

The mid-15<sup>th</sup> century marked the beginning of the age of exploration. Seafaring expeditions in search of riches of the East and West ignited a battle of ‘first claims.’ In 1499, four ships set sail from Portugal with Vasco de Gama leading this voyage. As the armada reached the Cape, violent storms appeared and de Gama claimed that “an immense shape materialized in the night air, grotesque and enormous stature with heavy jowls, and an unkempt beard.” Two ships and more than half of his men were lost at this point and De Gama cried out to this mythological being, stated his intentions and asked permission to pass. The giant vanished, the storms receded and a clear path of passage appeared.

It is believed that this being, known as the Adamastor, continues to protect the Cape from the unwanted. The Adamastor represents the perilous dangers that explorers have faced trying to abide in an area not wishing to be tamed. The Portuguese aptly named this southerly point - Cabo das Tormentas - or “Cape of Storms.”

Fast forward more than 400 years later and this wild frontier continues to amaze and implore understanding. Winemakers from around the world have flocked to South Africa for its old vines, untapped potential and immense opportunity. One such person is Australian winemaker Mick Craven of Craven Wines. Mick explored vineyards of the Western Cape searching for sites speaking to the soul of this incredible region.

Storm Point represents the ideal that good things come to those who wait. It was 400 years in the making and the right formula of timing, people and nature helped to create wines meant for all. Wines that define the core of South African wines: Purity, texture and concentrated elegance.

The majority of the grapes for this blend are from the Swartland region where the varieties (Syrah, Cinsault and Carignan) thrive in the warmer climates. Ranging from 15-25 years in age, the vines are now hitting their straps and providing great flavors and full maturity. Mainly grown on granitic soils as well as some shale soils. Grapes were hand harvested towards the end of February and destemmed to tank. Gentle extraction through light pumpovers occurred for a little more than a week with ML occurring naturally in the Spring. The wine was matured in both tank and neutral barrels. The result is a lively, zippy, red wine sprinkled with some very serious notes.

### Composition

57% Cinsault - 28% Syrah - 15% Carignan

### Vineyard

Three Sites in Swartland – Two in Stellenbosch

### Soil Type

Varied

### Élevage

10 months: 70% Neutral Barrique - 30% Stainless Steel

### Production

1,200 cases

### Tasting Notes

“ Charmingly vibrant purple. Strawberry fruit roll-up, blueberry cobbler and wild rose aromas make you smirk with giddiness. Savor pure deliciousness with ripe plums and bright berry flavors abounding. Medium tannins lend backbone without interfering with the wine’s approachability. Drink this with or without food but definitely pair with good company. It will get the party started. ”

### Reviews

None