



Storm Point

2020

RED BLEND

Western Cape - South Africa



VEGAN

Stats

Grapes: 56% Cinsault – 29% Syrah – 15% Carignan

Vineyard: Single sites in Paardeberg (Cinsault [50%] and Syrah), Malmesbury (Cinsault [50%]), Riebeek Valley (Carignan)

Vine Age: Cinsault (Average: 21-years-old) – Syrah (Average: 26-years-old) – Carignan (41-years-old)

Soil Type: Decomposed Granite (Paardeberg) - Malmesbury Shale with Loam (Riebeek Valley) – Granitic Sand (Malmesbury)

Viticulture: Sustainable

Fermentation: Inoculated – stainless-steel

Skin Contact: 8 days

Aging: 10 months in fourth passage French barrique (67%) and stainless steel (33%)

pH: 3.37

Total Acidity: 5.46 g/L

Total SO₂: 75 ppm

Total Production: 3,000 cases

Reviews

Wine & Spirits | 88 points

About

The weathered landscape of South Africa is the result of millions of years of battering storms. Storms that stirred in the waters off of the 'Cape of Good Hope.' That name is recent as historically it was known as the 'Cabo das Tormentas' or 'Cape of Storms.' In 1488 Bartolomeu Dias made the first modern rounding of the cape. Hundreds of previous attempts were made but the rugged lands of South Africa were protected by the rough seas and punishing storms. This 'Storm Point' remains a fabled place to this day.

The unruly landscape and intense growing season of the Swartland is the bedrock for this wine. 2020 was a dry growing season but a healthy winter set the vintage up for success. The berries were quite small but the number of bunches per vine were very healthy. All in all it is a really great vintage with greater yields and a bit more intensity compared to 2019. Transparent Cinsault serves as the blank canvas for the wine with Syrah and Carignan painting the deeper colors. The grapes were hand harvested from early to mid-February and destemmed to tank, though roughly a quarter of the Syrah was left whole cluster. Gentle extraction through light pumpovers occurred for nearly two weeks with ML occurring naturally in the spring. It was matured in both tank and neutral French barriques for ten months.

Tasting Note

Sexy aromas of pomegranate, cranberry, orange peel and chai tea with a hint of wet gravel. The palate is fresh and uplifting with notes of briary raspberry, morello cherry and wild lavender finished with an orange twist. This is an ethereal, vivid red blend that is perfect for any season or any occasion.