



Van Loggerenberg Wines

2019

'GRAFT'

Syrah | *Stellenbosch - South Africa*



NATURAL



ORGANIC



VEGAN

Stats

Grapes: 100% Syrah
Vineyard: Karibib Vineyard
Vine Age: 20-years-old
Soil Type: Decomposed granitic sand
Viticulture: Practicing Organic
Fermentation: Native – large inert plastic tanks (100% whole-cluster)
Skin Contact: 17 days
Aging: 11 months in 500L French demi-muid (30% new)
pH: 3.61
Total Acidity: 5.2 g/L
Total SO₂: 75 ppm
Total Production: 116 cases

Reviews

Greg Sherwood, MW | 95 points
Platter's Guide | 96 points
Tim Atkin, MW | 96 points

About

This vintage marks the second consecutive vintage of the wine being a varietal Syrah and results that Lukas is very happy with. The name 'Graft' has a few meanings to Lukas and the first of which relates to some very sound advice his grandfather gave that was if you want to make a success of something you need to put in the hard yards and graft (symbolized by the man working in the top left hand corner). Secondly it is also symbolized on the label how two individual parts can be grafted together to form a stronger and more meaningful whole as shown by the vines being grafted together. Lukas continues with the 'Karibib Vineyard' as the source for this ultra-impressive Syrah, which he now shares the block with Reenen Borman for Sons of Sugarland as well as Jean Smits for Damascene. The granitic soils and cooler climate of the Polkadraai have proven to produce truly world-class Syrah, especially in the hands of the aforementioned winemakers.

The fruit was hand-harvested and naturally fermented in large open top inert plastic bins entirely whole-bunch without any additions. The fruit was foot-trodden daily over the course of two weeks and then hand plunged for another couple of days. The must was then pressed directly to 500L French puncheons, of which 30% was new. Following 11 months of aging peacefully the barrels were racked to tank to settle naturally and bottled without fining or filtration.

Tasting Note

Indigo in color. The alluring and complex nose figuratively grabs your face and pulls it into the glass. Notes of red and black berries with cracked black pepper, black olive tapenade, crushed violets and wild lavender with rosemary. The palate is dusty but exotic with immense fruit purity and a noticeable fineness, all wrapped in a full-bodied wine that is lighter on its feet than the texture suggests. The mineral tannins remain persistent throughout the lengthy finish.