

DEMORGENZON Maestro Red 2015



Winemaker	Carl van der Merwe
Varietal Blend	42% Cabernet Sauvignon, 29% Merlot, 15% Malbec, 10% Petit Verdot, 4% Cabernet Franc
Location	South Africa
Appellation	Stellenbosch
Alcohol Content	14%
TA	5.6 g/l
pH	3.6
RS	1.8 g/l

Certifications

Biodiversity & Wine Initiative (BWI) Member, Integrated Production of Wines (IPW) Certified

VINEYARDS:

The grapes for DeMorgenzon's Maestro Red come from 10-12 year old vines planted in decomposed granite soils, which imparts a natural exuberance and youthful vigor to the wines. The vineyards are southeast facing, which means they are relatively cool, with lower sunlight intensity than the rest of Stellenbosch. The vines are trellised, and the vineyards are managed to ensure natural high acidity and full flavor concentration.

VINTAGE:

2015 was one of the earliest vintages on record, and effective crop thinning and selective harvesting had to be used to ensure perfectly ripe grapes. Soil moisture levels had to be managed to extend the ripening as late as possible. Disease pressure was low and the vintage produced a healthy crop of extraordinary quality, with excellent fruit concentration and vibrant natural acidity. The earlier vintage resulted in more prominent tannins, so extraction in the winery was adjusted accordingly.

VINIFICATION AND MATURATION:

The grapes were handpicked, hand sorted and naturally fermented whole berry. Each variety was fermented separately in stainless steel tanks. The wine underwent post-fermentation maceration for two weeks, followed by a gentle pressing and racking to French oak. Malolactic fermentation and aging took place in a combination of 300L French oak barrels (30% new) and 3000L oak foudres. After 18 months in barrel, the wine underwent minimal fining and a light filtration before bottling.

TASTING NOTES:

The DeMorgenzon Maestro Red is a classic Bordeaux styled blend. The name Maestro honors the Baroque music piped throughout the vineyards and in the cellar at DeMorgenzon.

This wine displays notes of cassis with rich, red fruit, dried herbs, perfume and plums on the nose. The palate is soft and silky with integrated flavors of cigar box and black fruit.



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