



RUBAIYAT 2020

VINTAGE

Winter brought cold temperatures and ample rainfall, setting the stage for optimal growth in spring and summer. Yet, sporadic heat spikes and showers in January disrupted vine growth, challenging vintners to gauge ripeness accurately. The 2020 crop size remained average.

VITICULTURE

The Cabernet vineyards are situated in the Firgrove area, about 6 km from False Bay. The grapes are selected from specific sites focusing on lower yields, the age of the vines, and the soil types. The average berry weight of the selected vines is less than a gram, making them extremely small and concentrated. The Merlot, Cab Franc and Petit Verdot are from De Grendel and thrive in Malmesbury shale, while the Cabernet is growing in decomposed granite in Stellenbosch.

VINIFICATION

Cabernet Sauvignon 64%, Petit Verdot 31%, Cabernet Franc 2%, Merlot 3%. A portion of the wine was made using the aerated pump over method in a closed tank with extended skin contact. The rest was made using the punch down method where a pneumatic punch down system was used four times a day and night. This punch down method ensures a much more concentrated extraction. The two portions were pressed separately and only blended before being transferred into new French Oak barrels where malolactic fermentation took place. The wine was matured in these barrels for a further 18 months.

TASTING NOTES

Deep garnet in colour with excellent clarity, the 2020 Rubaiyat presents an alluring bouquet of blackcurrant, dark cherry, and subtle hints of cedar and graphite. The palate is rich and layered, with concentrated dark fruit, fine-grained tannins, balanced acidity, and a hint of spice. Structured and elegant, the wine offers a long, persistent finish, showcasing depth, poise, and the concentrated expression of the Firgrove vineyards.

FOOD COMPLEMENTS

Pairs beautifully with grilled or roasted red meats, lamb, and game dishes. Complements hearty stews and aged cheeses. Its firm tannins, concentrated dark fruit, and balanced acidity also lift rich dishes and slow-cooked casseroles.

WINE OF ORIGIN

Coastal Region

MAIN VARIETIES

Cabernet Sauvignon, Petit Verdot, Cabernet Franc, Merlot

ANALYSIS

RS: 2.6 g/l | pH: 3.59 | TA: 5.8 g/l | Alc: 14.85 %

