

ANNO



1695

# La Motte

## 2021 SYRAH



### ORIGIN

All the grapes for this wine originate from La Motte in the Franschhoek area.

### VINTAGE

Despite a growing season with below-average rainfall, the winter was cold, creating favorable conditions in the vineyards that promoted even bunch development. Mild summer temperatures, free from extreme heatwaves, allowed for extended flavor maturation. As a result, the grapes were harvested 10-14 days later than usual, in February.

### VITICULTURE

The Syrah vineyards at La Motte Wine Estate are between 10 and 30 years old and are spread over different blocks with varying soil profiles. The vineyard blocks are situated between 200 and 300 meters above sea level. The soil is of sandstone and granite origin and varies from a heavier texture along the slopes to a sandy, well-drained texture in the valley. All the vineyards are trellised. Different clones and microclimates on the estate lend varying characteristics to the wine.

### VINICULTURE

Grapes were picked ripe, but still firm. They were cooled overnight, before 100% destemming and the whole berries were placed into stainless steel tanks. Selected yeast were added immediately and fermentation was at between 24 and 28 degrees Celsius. Tanks were pumped over twice daily, with good aeration. To promote elegance and soft extraction, most of the tanks were pressed before fermentation had been completed.

The wine was matured in 300-litre French oak barrels for 18 months, 100% of which were second fill barrels. To enhance colour and extraction 10% Durif was added for colour and structure. The wine was bottled in November 2022 and 2200 cartons (6 x 750 ml) were released as 2022 La Motte Syrah.

### ANALYSES

Alcohol	13.67% vol
Total Acid	5.9 g/l
Residual Sugar	2.2 g/l
pH	3.46

### CELLARMASTER'S IMPRESSIONS

The wine presents a captivating violet-red hue, with aromas of ripe mulberries typical of the Franschhoek terroir, complemented by savory notes of black olive and a subtle hint aniseed. On the palate, it offers a fresh and juicy profile with a smooth, mellow texture, brimming with vibrant cherry fruit. Medium-bodied with a generous finish, the 2021 La Motte Syrah promises excellent aging potential, continuing to evolve in complexity over the next 15 years.

### CONNOISSEUR'S CHOICE

The medium-bodied character of this wine harmonizes perfectly with rich, flavourful dishes, grilled foods (including grilled vegetables), game dishes (particularly those incorporating stewed fruit and sweet aromatic spice component), peppercorn-crusted steaks and barbecued meat in a sticky, sweet sauce. The wine's abundant fruit also latches on to the sweetness in jellies, chutneys and berry sauces.