

RUSTENBERG WINES

BUZZARD KLOOF SYRAH 2017

INTRODUCTION

Buzzard Kloof is a unique vineyard site that is planted with French clones of Syrah imported before the turn of the century. The name "Buzzard Kloof" arose from the Jackal and Steppe Buzzards that can be seen circling the thermal currents above the kloof (ravine) within which the vineyard is situated. This Syrah is unique in that it is planted on one of the coolest and least sun exposed slopes on Rustenberg, resulting in a long, late ripening process and consistently produces the most structured and full bodied Syrah on the property. We recommend decanting this wine before serving.

VINTAGE

The Winter of 2016 was dry but cold as drought conditions persisted in the Western Cape. Despite the drought, a warm, dry spring and little wind meant that there was little disease pressure and little stress on the vineyards beyond the heat. Harvest started slightly earlier than usual but was 10 days later than the record early start of the 2016 vintage. Careful use of irrigation to offset the dry drought conditions and cold nights experienced during the first four months of the year resulted in superb quality, and wonderful acidity, colour and flavour concentration in the wines. Indications are that 2017 will be an excellent vintage with plenty of potential to age well.

VINEYARDS

Wine of Origin	Simonsberg, Stellenbosch
Varietal Blended	100% Syrah
Soil Types	Decomposed Granite
Trellising/Pruning System	VSP (Vertical Shoot Positioned), 2 Node Spur Pruned
Irrigation Type	Minimal Drip Irrigation
Picking Method & Date	Hand Picked, March 2017

WINEMAKING

Extraction Method	Crushed and De-stemmed Fruit, Pumped Over During Ferment
Fermentation Vessel	Stainless Steel
Yeast	Cultured Active Dry Wine Yeast
Extended Maceration	For +/- 7 days
Oak Aging	100% aged for 20 Months
Age and Type of Oak	40% New French & American barriques; 60% 2nd & 3rd fill
Fining Agents Used	Egg Whites (Albumen)
Final Analysis	Alc v/v: 14% TA 5.4g/L pH 3.48 RS 2.4g/L
Bottling Date	December 2018

WINE

Tasting Note	This wine exhibits an enticing nose of pepper, violets and ripe berry fruits which follow through to a well-structured and lengthy palate with fine grained tannins.
Aging Potential	10+ years from vintage under ideal cellaring conditions

ACCOLADES

AWARD	COMPETITION/PUBLICATION	YEAR/EDITION
92 Points	Tim Atkin SA Report	2019
90 Points	Robert Parker's Wine Advocate	March 2020
Trophy for Best Shiraz	Old Mutual Trophy Wine Show	2019
Silver Medal	International Wine Challenge	2019
Silver Medal	Decanter World Wine Awards	2019

