SECKFORD AGENCIES

BIG EASY CABERNET SAUVIGNON, ERNIE ELS

ERNIE ELS WINES

Vintage 2023



Big Easy Cabernet was sourced from the Helderberg region within Stellenbosch, with selected parcels from different coastal regions to complete the blend.

TASTING NOTE

85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Cinsault. Rubied plum. Silky tones of boysenberry, blackcurrant, and black-plum skin unpeel, drifted in subtle toast and oak-spice. Medium-bodied, the palate is well-rounded and defined. Red and black berries coalesce with plummy, morello cherry richness, deftly held by appetising scratch of fine-grippy tannins, evolving to a salted liquorice edge. The finish, juicy and sumptuous, is lifted by waves of refreshment from well-judged acidity.

VINTAGE CONDITIONS

The 2023 growing season was marked by a warmer winter and fewer cold units, but steady Atlantic winds and light spring showers helped regulate summer temperatures. This led to healthy canopy growth, even development, and balanced ripening across all varieties. Harvest began on 16 February with Merlot and concluded with our later-ripening Cabernet Sauvignon, which benefited from extended hang time. Despite late-season rain and predictions of a smaller crop, the Helderberg produced exceptional fruit with remarkable colour, structure and finesse

VINIFICATION DETAILS

The Cabernet Sauvignon grapes were hand-harvested in the cool of the early morning. On the sorting table, all excess stalks and inferior berries were removed. Primary fermentation took place in 7-ton open-top stainless-steel tanks. Intermittent pump-overs and punch-downs were done to ensure that the right flavours, aromas and tannins could be extracted from the berries. After primary fermentation some batches underwent extended maceration, maturing separately in oak barrels.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Alcohol	Residual sugar
14.0	2.4
pH	**Acidity**
3.62	5.7

ATTRIBUTES

Origin	Variety	Malolactic Fermentation	Bottle Size	Vegetarian
South Africa	Cabernet Sauvignon	Yes	75cl	Yes

Winemaker	Fining Agent	Closure	Region	Vegan
Louis Strydom	None	Screw top	Stellenbosch	Yes