SECKFORD AGENCIES

PROPRIETOR'S BLEND, ERNIE ELS

ERNIE ELS WINES

Vintage 2021



A blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Shiraz, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Malbec and Petit Verdot.

TASTING NOTE

Lustrous garnet with a ruby core. A fresh florality blooms, hibiscus, violets, a salted-fynbos breeze; all riding an undercurrent of incense, fresh cinnamon and spice. Hint of smoky graphite to the tail. The palate is energetic and bright, floated with silky damson fruit, plums, red cherries, detailed with oak-spice and woven through with sleek, succulent tannins to a perfumed finish. Cabernet Sauvignon 60%; Shiraz 20%; Merlot 5%; Malbec 5%; Cabernet Franc 5% and Petit
Verdot 5%.

VINTAGE CONDITIONS

The 2021 Vintage was the first vintage where the vines started to come back into their normal circadian rhythm with the rain and temperatures normalizing. This vintage started with the soil at full water holding capacity allowing the vines to bud with no limitations.
The temperatures this season were relatively hot, but had intermittent cooler days with rain. This led to stretching the ripening of the fruit to allow the ripening process to continue for longer.

VINIFICATION DETAILS

The grapes were hand-harvested in the cool of the early morning. Whole berries were fermented in open Nico Velo concrete tanks with intermittent pump-overs and punch downs to ensure a balance between flavour, colour and tannin extraction from the skins. The Shiraz component was partially whole bunch fermented to aid with flavour complexity. All ferments were meticulously monitored to ensure that the natural aromas and flavours were preserved. After primary fermentation, some tanks underwent extended maceration. Each variety was matured separately for 18 months in French oak barrels (30% new) before final blending and bottling.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Alcohol	Residual sugar
14.30	2.5
pH	**Acidity**
3.57	6.0

AWARDS

DWWA: Silver
Platter: 96 pts
Tim Atkin MW: 93 pts

ATTRIBUTES

Origin	Variety	Malolactic Fermentation	Bottle Size	Vegetarian
South Africa	Red Blend	Yes	75cl	Yes

Winemaker	Fining Agent	Closure	Region	Vegan
Louis Strydom	None	Cork	Stellenbosch	Yes