SECKFORD AGENCIES

MAJOR SERIES CABERNET SAUVIGNON, ERNIE ELS

ERNIE ELS WINES

Vintage 2021



Named in recognition of Ernie Els' golfing achievements, Major Series also reflects the premium nature of the wines from this South African estate.

TASTING NOTE

Deep radiant plum. Sandalwood and cedar greet, unfurling like the pages of an old book to ink, plum, tea-leaf with a burst of fresh violets. On the palate, energetic focus and purity of cassis fruit show off this cooler than average vintage. A spine of cool, mineral acidity affirms this, acting as refreshing ballast for the sapidity of blackcurrants, dark cherries and rush of tangy pomegranate. The juicy, clean fruit is folded in by satiny tannins, that layer and dissolve into a sophisticated dry finish.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Alcohol	Residual sugar
13.9	2.2
pH	**Acidity**
3.74	5.7

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 various Cabernet Sauvignon clones grown at the property were hand-picked, and great care was taken to ensure each block was processed separately. The bunches were sorted and destemmed before secondary sorting via an optical sorter took place. The whole berries were fermented in open top tanks. Premium selection grapes from selected parcels within the various clonal blocks were fermented in smaller open fermenters. Intermittent pump-overs and punch downs were done to ensure that the right flavours, aromas and tannins could be extracted from the berries. All ferments were meticulously monitored to ensure an optimal balance between flavour and tannins. After primary fermentation some tanks underwent extended maceration. Each clonal batch of Cabernet was micro-vinified in oak barrels and a small batch spent 11 months aging in terracotta before final blending and bottling took place.

AWARDS

Platter: 92 pts;
Winemag Prescient Cabernet Sauvignon Report – 93 Points (Top 10)

ATTRIBUTES

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

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