

Donkiesbaai

Concept

Donkiesbaai on the West Coast of South Africa has been the vacation home to the Engelbrecht family for four generations. The grapes for this wine come from the small region of Piekenierskloof, this unique climate with warm sunny days and cool nights produces characteristics that contribute to the style and elegance of this wine. I cannot think of a better way to complete the Donkiesbaai story than with a glass of elegant Donkiesbaai Grenache Noir.

Vintage : 2017

Grape Variety : Grenache Noir

Appellation : Piekenierskloof

Analysis : Alcohol –13.74vol%
: pH – 3.53
: Acidity –6.3g/l
: Res. sugar –2.2g/l

Winemaker : Roelof Lotriet



Donkiesbaai
Grenache Noir

JEAN ENGELBRECHT SUID-AFRIKA

Climate

Piekenierskloof has a warm climate, but enjoys light winds from the southwest which results in cool evenings. The vineyards grow at high altitude, 520 meters, and the approximate rainfall is 360mm per annum. This was a dry vintage, with the average rainfall being 317mm.

Soil

Vines are planted in deep sandy soil with extreme heat and dry land conditions necessitating deep root development which serves as a great buffer against the harsh conditions. Grape berries were smaller and more concentrated in this 2017 vintage because of the dry climate. Yields were much smaller but the quality of the grapes were exceptional.

Vinification

The grapes are placed in open top fermenters, punch downs and pump overs are done two to four times daily. The grapes are then whole bunch pressed after a semi-carbonic maceration occurring naturally during the fermentation process. There was no extended skin maceration which allows the wine to retain its light color. There after the wine was put into old 300 liter French Oak barrels for 8 months. The wine was then bottled and matured for 10 months before being released. Only 1076 bottles were produced in 2017.

Tasting Notes

Colour – Pale Ruby

Aroma – Undertones of floral blossom back up ripe nuances of red berries, including Strawberry, cranberries and cherries adding delicate freshness to this wine, with subtle stalk and oak influences of cardamom and nutmeg spices.

Palate – With juicy flavors of raspberries, cherries and ripe currants this wine is noticeably light and elegant. The stylistic influences of whole bunch fermentation bring undertones of savory spice and bold, gripping tannins that will integrate well, bringing length and complexity to this intriguing wine.