

# SIMONSIG REDHILL PINOTAGE 2020

*Stellenbosch, South Africa*



**TASTING NOTES:** Dark red in color, this Pinotage is bursting with fruit with aromas of cranberries, black cherries and spicy raspberries with a perfume of violet, vanilla and musk candy. With excellent oak integration, fine elegant tannins and tangy acidity, the wine has a weightless intensity to it that makes it a fine wine.

**VITICULTURE:** Higher rainfall during the 2019 winter months and the coinciding increase in dam levels resulted in better water availability for vineyards. Even budbreak and a large number of flowering bunches showed early promise. Conditions remained favorable, except for some wind during flowering and rain during December that required meticulous vineyard management. Moderate temperatures and dry weather followed, resulting in an excellent season. Above average yields with healthy and excellent quality grapes. An intense season that required immense focus and precise execution to manage. However, if managed well, it holds immense potential.

**VINIFICATION:** Hand harvested at optimal ripeness on the 5th of February 2020. After meticulous sorting in the vineyard the grapes are destemmed and crushed to two open top fermenters. A total of 20% of the grapes are fermented as whole clusters. Two days cold soaking before inoculation. Manual punch downs every two hours gives a short, but intensive extraction. Fermentation temperature peaked at 30°C. Pressed after 6 days on the skins, where alcoholic fermentation finished in the tank. Malolactic fermentation occurred in barrel.

**FAMILY:** Named after the majestic views of the Simonsberg Mountain, Simonsig Wine Estate is situated in the famous Stellenbosch wine region just east of Cape Town. Founded in 1971 on true Cape hospitality and strong family values, Simonsig is now helmed by the 3rd generation of the Malan family. The late Frans Malan, a pioneer of the South African wine industry and superior wine craftsman, cemented the estate's legacy in South African wine history. He produced the first bottle of the much-loved, groundbreaking Kaapse Vonkel sparkling wine, South Africa's first Méthode Cap Classique made in the traditional method. He is also honored for co-founding the thriving Stellenbosch Wine Route, the first of its kind in the country. Today, his wine heritage lives on through his sons, Francois and Johan, and his grandchildren, Francois-Jacques, Christelle and Michael.

**PRODUCER:** Simonsig

**REGION:** Stellenbosch, South Africa

**GRAPE(S):** 100% Pinotage

**ALCOHOL:** 13.9%

**TOTAL ACIDITY:** 5.8 G/L

**RESIDUAL SUGAR:** 2.4 G/L

**pH:** 3.5