## SIMONSIG PICK OF THE BUNCH PINOTAGE 2022



Stellenbosch, South Africa





TASTING NOTES: This proudly South African Pinotage is silky smooth and fruit-forward, with flavors of juicy cherry and bramble berries, and hints of licorice and sweet spices.

VITICULTURE: The winery's best Pinotage is grown on weathered shale soils which makes deliciously-perfumed Pinotage.

VINIFICATION: The grapes underwent destemming and crushing, followed by 6 days on the skins (2 days of cold maceration and 4 days of fermentation). The fermentation process occurred over 4 days at 26-28°C, with 3-4 pump overs daily. After pressing, most of the wine returned to concrete and stainless-steel tanks. The wine is predominantly unoaked, maintaining its pure expression. However, to enhance complexity, 14% of the blend undergoes maturation for 8 months in older fill French Oak barrels before being reintegrated during the blending process.

**INTERESTING FACT:** Pick of the Bunch refers to the best in its class. Through years of working with this characterful grape, we have refined our winemaking skills to bring out the best in Pinotage and produce world-class wine. First bottled at Simonsig in 1970, this variety thrives in our Stellenbosch terroir and is an integral part of our vineyards.

**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 craftsperson, 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 **ALCOHOL: 14%** 

**REGION:** Stellenbosch, South Africa **TOTAL ACIDITY:** 5.1 G/L

**GRAPE(S):** 100% Pinotage **RESIDUAL SUGAR: 3.7 G/L** 

SKU: SMPI227 pH: 3.66

