



# BOEKENHOUTSKLOOF

## SYRAH 2022

### FACT SHEET

**Alcohol:** 14 %vol  
**RS:** 2.39g/l  
**TA:** 5.06g/l  
**pH:** 3.94  
**W.O.:** Swartland



#### Vineyards & Winemaker's Notes

Grapes for our Boekenhoutskloof Syrah are picked from select parcels of the finest Syrah grown at our Swartland farms, Porseleinberg (90%) and Goldmine (10%), close to the small town of Riebeek-Kasteel. The Porseleinberg vineyards are planted on an extremely hard and rocky bedrock of decomposed Mica-Schist; a unique ward-defining terroir within the appellation. The vineyards on Goldmine sit on the south-west slopes of the Kasteelberg and comprise of Brown Schist with deposits of Table Mountain sandstone, which is weathered and washed from the adjacent mountain. The delicate combination of these two properties allow for this expression of both concentrated and structured wines, made from this Rhône grape.

The winter preceding the 2022 harvest was one of the wettest in the past five years, yet it maintained sufficient cold units to allow the vines to enter dormancy. Spring brought consistent budding alongside additional rainfall, which resulted in vigorous canopy growth and a relatively late *veraison*. By January, hot weather and heat spikes during ripening created a narrow window for harvest. This vintage will be remembered for its swiftness and intense pace.

#### Winemaking Philosophy (Vinification)

Our Syrah grapes were hand-harvested into lug boxes and transported to Boekenhoutskloof in Franschhoek for vinification. Grapes were cooled in our cold room, then transferred to our tulip-shaped concrete tanks for fermentation. A combination of partially destemmed and whole-bunch (65%) clusters fermented spontaneously with minimal sulphur additions and no acidification. A soft *délestage* was performed 2-3 times per day. Once maceration was complete, the skins were basket pressed and gravity-fed into traditional 2 500L Austrian oak *foudres* and 600L *demi-muids* for further ageing of up to 18 months.

#### Tasting Note

The nose is brooding and rich with upfront aromas of dark fruits and liquorice, and earthy whiffs of cured venison, forest floor, tobacco smoke and cigar box all adding to its intensity. The powerful nose opens onto a classy, opulent palate, showing fresh red and black berry fruit and flavours of plum, currants and dark cherries with hints of white pepper and allspice adding to its complexity. The mid-palate is full, juicy and elegant with a smooth, soft texture and classy, svelte, yet ample, ripe tannins. The well-integrated acidity delivers a wine of balance with a lithe and silky mouthfeel. A long, slightly savoury finish completes this classic, serious Syrah.