

Olifantsberg, Breedekloof, Pinotage 2020



A beautifully crafted Pinotage showing ripe strawberry and cranberry fruit, elegant and silky.

Producer Note

Olifantsberg is passionate about producing authentic wines with a true sense of place, which reflect the unique location of their vineyard. The focus is on sustainable farming and winemaking practices, resulting in limited intervention in the both the vineyard and cellar. They hold the Integrated Production of Wine (IPW) certification for sustainability. The team are fully committed to understanding their terroir and managing their natural resources through conservation, which adds to the singularity of their wines. The unique terroir with its combination of Breede-shale, Renosterveld and sandstone soils, constant winds and elevation, produces concentrated fruit that winemaker Elizma Visser translates into elegant, fresh and age-worthy wines. In Tim Atkin's 2021 South Africa Report, Elizma was awarded the prestigious Young Winemaker of the Year Award.

Vintage

In 2020, Breedekloof received 70% of its annual rainfall, replenishing the soil water reserves to hydrate the vines. The cold units of weather were less than the previous year, but still sufficient for good budbreak, which occurred one week earlier. Strong winds in October had a negative impact on flowering and fruit set, which resulted in smaller berries with looser bunches. The usual heat waves did not have a substantial impact on the quality of the fruit. Harvesting commenced a week earlier than usual and extremely high quality wines were produced.

Vineyard

The vineyard is located on the fertile slopes of the Olifantsberg Mountain Range where it endures wide diurnal temperature differences and strong winds, at altitudes from 250 to 450 metres above sea level. During the winter the mountain peaks are snow covered, keeping the vines dormant for longer. Cold winters, coupled with the summer winds, ensure the slow ripening of the grapes, which help to maintain healthy vines and contribute freshness and elegance to the wines. The soils in the vineyard comprise a unique sandy shale with a clay subsoil, which lends structure to the resulting wine. The Pinotage trellised vines are 13 years old and are farmed in a sustainable manner.

Winemaking

Whole berries were naturally fermented in open top fermenters, with soft techniques used to extract colour, fruit and tannins. The wine was aged for a further 10 months in French oak foudres and barrels to add complexity.

Tasting Note

A beautifully crafted Pinotage showing wild strawberry and ripe raspberry interlaced with hints of spice and earthy notes. With great purity of fruit and silky tannins it reveals a fresh and elegant expression of South Africa's signature variety.

Grape

Pinotage 100%



Winemaker:	Elizma Visser
Region:	Breedekloof
Sub region:	Breedekloof
Country:	South Africa
Alcohol:	13%
Body Value:	C (A is light, E is full bodied)
Residual Sugar:	2
Contains Sulphites:	Yes
Vegetarian/Vegan:	Yes/Yes
Milk/Eggs:	No/No
Organic:	No
Biodynamic:	No
Product Code:	5597520A
Case unit of measure:	6X75CL
Formats Available:	75cl
Closure:	Diam