

Swartland Winery, 'Bush Vines', Swartland, Syrah 2020



Awards

Silver, IWSC, 2022

An upfront nose with a bouquet of spice, sweet scented violets and an earthy smokiness complemented by a soft and opulent creaminess of flavour with a hint of chocolate.

Producer Note

Big open skies, arid deserts, the vast flowing landscape, with its unforgiving climate and rugged bush vines, this is wild country, this is Swartland. The contrast with manicured Constantia and oh-so-cool Stellenbosch couldn't be greater. But right now, Swartland is the most exciting wine region in South Africa. A new wave of winemakers are making ground-breaking wines from Rhône varieties and it is part of a revolution that has got everybody talking. The Swartland Winery is producing iconic and award winning wines in this fashionable and dynamic region, so we have joined forces with them to create a unique, distinctive and expressive wine range that has been masterfully blended for the UK palate. We think something this good, is definitely worth talking about!

Vineyard

The Swartland name originates from a description of the indigenous "renosterbos" or rhino bush, which appears to turn black, ("Swart" in Afrikaans), during the summer months. This hot, dry climate has an average temperature range of 25°C to 35°C and an annual rainfall of 450 mm and 600mm, but the altitude of these vineyards creates a cool oasis in this arid landscape. Minimal intervention and environmentally friendly farming practices are paramount. 80% of the vineyards are small bush vines with an average yield of six tonnes per hectare; the quality of fruit is exceptional. The grapes for this wine came from a single vineyard of 100% bush vines with an age range of between 25 years to 40 years, which are grown at 300 metres above sea-level.

Winemaking

The berries were harvested at optimal phenolic ripeness and then fermented at temperatures of between 24°C to 26°C. Pump overs and aeration took place during the first half of the fermentation, which gradually became shorter in frequency and duration. The wine was influenced by oak during fermentation and post-fermentation extended skin contact was applied, to extract the desired levels of colour, flavour and fine tannins. The wine was aged in 1st, 2nd and 3rd fill French oak, medium toast barrels for 12 months.

Tasting Note

A forthcoming, complex nose with a bouquet of spice, white pepper, violet and an earthy smokiness complemented by red berry fruit. This beautifully full and complex wine delivers lively red berry fruits, firm tannins and good oak integration with a well balanced finish.

Grape

Syrah 100%



Winemaker:	Marius Prins
Region:	Western Cape
Subregion:	Swartland
Country:	South Africa
Alcohol:	14%
Body Value:	C (A is light, E is full bodied)
Residual Sugar:	3.2
Contains Sulphites:	Yes
Vegetarian/Vegan:	Yes/No
Milk/Eggs:	No/No
Organic:	No
Biodynamic:	No
Product Code:	5603120A
Case unit of measure:	6X75CL
Formats Available:	75cl
Closure:	Diam