

CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2017

86% Cabernet Sauvignon; 3% Malbec; 11% Cabernet Franc

KEERMONT CABERNET SAUVIGNON grows in our Cottage Lane Vineyard on the mid-slopes of the Helderberg. This vineyard is situated on the crest of a ridge (320m above sea level) so has aspects ranging from East through North to West. It is very exposed resulting in small vines with low yields. This has allowed us to make a relatively fine-grained Cabernet, but the clay soils translate to a wine with power, weight and fresh acidity. We blend in a couple of barrels of other varieties to add to the complexity of flavour and tannin structure.

All grapes used in producing our wines are grown on Keermont Vineyards. Most of the vineyard parcels grow on deep red clay rich soil derived from sandstone and granite and are surrounded by indigenous 'fynbos' vegetation. Our vineyards are planted on steep mid-slopes high up in the valley between the Stellenbosch and Helderberg mountain ranges. Aspects vary from North East through North to West facing between 250 and 400 meters above sea level.

Small batches of grapes are specifically selected according to ripeness, harvested by hand and vinified separately. This process is carried out gently and naturally in open top fermenters using traditional methods only. This wine spent 27 months maturing in seasoned French oak barriques (approximately 5% new) before being bottled by hand without filtration on 11 June 2019. 8024 bottles and 100 magnums were produced. The Keermont Cabernet Sauvignon 2017 was bottle aged in our cellar for 9 months before release to ensure integration and improved drinkability on release.

Keermont Vineyards is a boutique wine estate set in the naturally-formed amphitheatre between the Helderberg and Stellenbosch mountain ranges. We aim to grow wines that reflect the natural wonders of this beautiful place.

KEERMONT VINEYARDS, BLAAUWKLIPPEN ROAD, STELLENBOSCH, SOUTH AFRICA, TEL 021 880 0397, WWW.KEERMONT.CO.ZA



A n a l y s i s

Alc: 15.0% pH: 3.54 TA: 5.7g/L RS: 1.8g/L TSO₂: 76mg/L VA: 0.83g/L

V i n e y a r d B l o c k s

Block	Variety	Planted	Yield ton/Ha	Percentage of Blend
Cottage Lane S&S	Cabernet Sauvignon	2006	3.7 ton/Ha	86%
Homestead 2	Malbec	2007	4.4 ton/Ha	3%
Pondok Rug 3	Cabernet Franc	2007	6.2 ton/Ha	11%

TASTING NOTE

Tasting note: Dark ruby red in colour, this is quite a serious vintage with a complex bouquet of ripe red berry fruit, cedarwood, and typical 'fynbos' flowers. The palate is full bodied, but gentle. Tannin structure is full and dense and coats the palate while the natural acidity keeps the ripe fruit in check. Savoury notes of tomato paste and cloves add character to the bright red strawberry and cassis flavours which linger into a long, tight finish. Drink 2020 – 2035.

VINTAGE REPORT

2017 was an excellent growing season on Keermont. Despite a drier than usual winter, we had strong growth in the vineyards during the spring time. This led to the formation of a good healthy crop which ripened evenly during the warm, dry summer. Harvest started fairly early, but was put on hold after a heavy rainfall in late January. This rejuvenated the vines and allowed for extended ripening which definitely raised the general quality. We recorded one of our largest and healthiest crops yet and grapes came in with great analysis and concentration.

PREVIOUS RELEASES

<i>CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2016:</i>	<i>4½ stars PLATTER GUIDE Neal Martin (WA) – 95 pts Tim Atkin (MW) – 92 pts</i>
<i>CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2015:</i>	<i>4 stars PLATTER GUIDE Neal Martin (WA) – 91 pts Tim Atkin (MW) – 93 pts</i>
<i>CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2014:</i>	<i>Neal Martin (WA) – 91 pts Tim Atkin (MW) – 93 pts</i>