

Keermont

s t e l l e n b o s c h

Keermont Syrah 2014

KEERMONT SYRAH 2014 is a blend of three different Syrah vineyard sites growing on Keermont Vineyards:

Steepside Syrah: Growing on a North facing slope in deep, red clay-rich soils; this vineyard generally produces powerful full bodied wines with rich, spicy flavours.

Topside Syrah: An unirrigated west facing vineyard planted at 400m above sea level on rocky sandstone-based soil. Topside Syrah is usually a more aromatic wine with good structure and natural acid.

Sweetwater Syrah: Situated in a rocky valley below the Fleurfontein spring, this is the coolest of the three Syrah sites and ripens the latest. Sweetwater Syrah is normally lighter and elegant in style with an herbal aroma.

All grapes used in producing our wines are grown on Keermont Vineyards. Small parcels 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 20 months maturing in seasoned 500 and 225 Litre French oak barrels before being bottled by hand without filtration on 3 December 2015. We produced 14116 bottles and 104 magnums.

Tasting note: The Keermont Syrah 2014 has a warm strawberry red colour. It has an enchanting bouquet of violets, dusty sandal wood and a hint of spicy red fruit. The palate is elegant and soft, and has a clean linear acidity. It has a strong floral character with spicy red fruit and hints of cherry sherbet. The tannins are dusty and dry and the wine has a long earthy herbal finish. Drink 2016-2026.

CURRENT & PREVIOUS RELEASES:

Syrah 2014: TIM ATKIN (MW) -94 pts; NEAL MARTIN (MA) – 90 pts
Syrah 2013: TIM ATKIN (MW) -93 pts; PLATTER GUIDE – 4 stars
Syrah 2012: DECANTER MAGAZINE – 95 pts (5 stars); JANCIS ROBINSON – 17 pts; NEAL MARTIN (Robert Parker’s Wine Advocate) – 92 pts; TIM ATKIN (MW) – 94 pts; MATTHEW JUKES WoW in Money week: “my top red wine from the recent South African expo”the greatest South African sensory experiences of my year “- 21 November 2014 PLATTER GUIDE – 4 stars
Syrah 2011: 91pts Neal Martin (Wine Advocate)
Syrah 2010: 93pts Neal Martin (Wine Advocate); 92pts James Molesworth (Wine Spectator); 17.5/20 Julia Harding MW (www.jancisrobinson.com)
Syrah 2009: 94pts Neal Martin (Wine Advocate); 91pts James Molesworth (Wine Spectator)

Vintage Report:

The season’s winter was generally mild, but became cold and wet towards spring time. Keermont experienced record rainfall and even snow on the mountains during August. This allowed for good vine growth during the spring, but also increased the mildew pressure and resulted in an unusually large insect population. Fortunately neither of these had a major impact on our crop.

Our soils stayed moist through the growing season thanks to moderate temperatures and we hardly had to irrigate at all before harvest. A series of heat waves in early February jolted us into harvest action. The vines, which had been very nurtured by all the moisture, suddenly started to show some signs of stress and we needed to pick quite a few of the blocks over a short period.

The favourable growing conditions contributed to a healthy crop of 150 tons for Keermont Vineyards.

Analysis:

WINE	Alc %	pH	TA g/L	RS g/L	TSO ₂ mg/L	VA g/L
Keermont Syrah 2014 unofficial	14.65	3.75	4.9	2.0	100	0.65

Blocks:

Block	Variety	Planted	Yield ton/Ha	% of blend
Steepside	Syrah	2005	6.6 ton/Ha	45%
Topside	Syrah	2006	4.2 ton/Ha	30%
Sweetwater	Syrah	2006	13.7 ton/Ha	25%

KEERMONT VINEYARDS (PTY) LTD

Reg no. 2002/020155/07

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