



Du Toitskloof

RAWSONVILLE wines

PINOTAGE/MERLOT/RUBY CABERNET

IN THE VINEYARD

All the grapes for this blend came from within 5 km of the Du Toitskloof cellar. The vines, grafted onto Richter 99 and 101-14 rootstocks, are grown in slightly clayey soil. Based on soil moisture levels, as measured by neutron hydrometers in the vineyards, controlled irrigation is applied. This practice ensures small berries with an excellent skin to fruit ratio, providing an intense colour and flavour spectrum. Leaf canopies were carefully managed to ensure the berries received adequate sunlight.

ABOUT THE HARVEST

The grapes were picked when they had reached optimum physiological ripeness.

IN THE CELLAR

The grapes of the three cultivars were vinified in more or less the same way. They were crushed and destemmed at 24° to 26° Balling whereafter the mash was pumped to rotor tanks where it was left on the skins for two days at temperatures of between 10°C to 15°C to allow maximum extraction of colour and flavour. Selected yeast strains were added and fermentation allowed to take place at a controlled temperature of 24° C while the rotor tanks were turned every four to six hours to increase extraction. After the primary fermentation lasting six to seven days, the wine was racked and the skins pressed. Some of the pressed wine was added back to provide additional depth. After malolactic fermentation the wine was matured for four to six months in French oak before bottling.

TASTING NOTES

A well rounded, medium-bodied wine with inviting raspberry and other ripe red-berry flavours, hints of spice and dried banana. It has an impressive smoothness and a long fruity finish.

FOOD SUGGESTIONS

An ideal companion to BBQ and other red meat dishes. Also lovely with smoked chicken.

AGEING POTENTIAL

Enjoy now or drink within two years of bottling

BLEND INFORMATION

45% Pinotage, 35% Merlot,
20% Ruby Cabernet

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Alcohol:	14.35%
pH:	3.35
Residual sugar:	6.4g/l
Total acid:	5.9g/l
Total SO ₂ :	91mg/l
Free SO ₂ :	44mg/l

CHARACTERISTICS

Type:	Red blend, wooded
Body:	Medium
Taste:	Fruity
Pack size:	750 ml
Pack type:	Bottle
Closure:	Screw

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Chief winemaker:	Shawn Thomson
Winemakers:	Chris Geldenhuys
Main variety:	Pinotage
Wine of origin:	Western Cape



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