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Full bottle 1,456 g. Certified organic (Ecocert). Vineyards planted in 2017. Aiming for Cab Franc that is more Loire than Bordeaux in style, avoiding both heaviness and greenness, Jacques de Klerk is managing their cool, southeast-facing vineyards in a very different way. Just after the bunches reach the 'peaberry' stage, they remove all the older, bigger, lower leaves on both sides of the canopy to expose the fruiting zone to as much light as possible. Photosynthetic energy comes from the highly productive newer leaves on the shoots (they leave long new-growth shoots). Because Elgin has much more cloud cover than other wine regions in SA, they get less infrared and so the exposure to light is less likely to lead to sunburn on grapeskins. 'If you do it at the right time, the exposure hardens skins which makes them more resilient to sun.' Full carbonic maceration, all whole bunch, then into 2,500-litre concrete eggs, maceration for two weeks. They press when there is still some sugar left, and the wine goes back into same concrete egos to finish fermentation and age for 12 months with minimal rankings. It comes out of the eggs just before harvest and then into old barrels for a short bit. Light, crossflow filtration. A wine like this, when tasted in context of Lokaia and Lukas van Loggerenberg's Cabernet Francs, increasingly convinces me that South Africa's most beautiful red wines lie in the off-beat varieties, the ones that are so often seen as blending ingredients, like Cinsault and Cabernet Franc. The wine glows in the mouth, ruby sweet, jewelled, cut with the precision of a gemstone and yet so full of luminous light that the angles feel like curves. Sylph-soft, satin-slip tannins. It has, as all true Cab Franc has, a green-stone heartbeat: like luminous green moss on forest-stream stones. Angelica, baby tarragon leaves, cilantro stems and the sweet, sweet perfume of ripe redcurrants. It's a hauntingly beautiful wine. **VGV** (TC)

Producer	Radford Dale Organic
Cuvée	Higher Purpose
Grape variety	<u>Cabernet Franc</u>
Appellation	Elgin
Region	Cape South Coast

Country	<u>South Africa</u>
Colour	Red
Alcohol	13%
Score	17.5
	2023
When to drink	- 2032
Published on	8 Dec 2023
Date tasted	8 Dec 2023
Reviewer	<u>Tamlyn Currin</u>
Stockist	£25 RRP imported by Les Caves de Pyrene