

OP DIE BERG PINOT NOIR 2021

The Vintage

High on the Witzenberg Mountain range in Ceres, at an altitude of 1,000 meters above sea level, this unique 'appellation' exhibits South Africa's only truly continental climate with winter temperatures frequently dropping below freezing. The later than usual and slow harvest of 2021 was definitely worth the wait. Wine lovers can really look forward to remarkable wines from the 2021 crop. The cooler weather enabled producers to harvest their grapes at exactly the right time, and we are especially excited about good colour extraction, low pH levels and high natural acidity, which all point to exceptional quality wines. These growing conditions ensure that the new 2021 Op Die Berg Pinot Noir will age remarkably well over the next few years.

Viticulture

Well-drained, soft, yellow shale soils. In winter, the vineyard soil is often covered with a layer of snow which provides the perfect conditions for dormancy of the vines, a much-needed resting and recovery period before the growth season starts.

Tasting Notes

Clear, bright garnet in colour with a plush array of fresh strawberries, ripe cherries, and a hint of forest mushrooms. A complex wine delivering excellent balance between fruit and oak flavours.

Vinification

30% of the hand-picked harvested batch was destalked while the remaining 70% was whole-bunch fermented. Before fermentation, cold maceration was allowed for 4 days. The juice was inoculated with yeast and the fermenting must gently, and only partially, punched down twice a day using the aerated pump-over method. The partial punch-down ensures a longer fermentation period resulting in more colour and flavour development. Following a gentle basket pressing, the wine was transferred to new French Oak barrels for malolactic fermentation before being transferred to a combination of older barrels to mature for 13 months.

Food Complements

Enjoy with crispy duck, mushroom galette, salmon or trout

Analysis

RS: 2,3 g/l
pH: 3.40
TA: 5.9 g/l
Alc: 12.82 %

