



- **Country:** South Africa
- **Region:** Coastal Region
- **Subregion:** Stellenbosch, Durbanville & Perdeberg
- **Vintage:** 2018
- **Colour:** Red
- **Grape Variety:** Syrah/Shiraz, Cabernet Sauvignon, Grenache/Garnacha, Cinsault, Mourvèdre/Monastrell, Viognier
- **ABV:** 14.5%
- **Bottle Size:** 75cl
- **Closure:** Natural cork
- **Style:** Boisterous and enjoyable
- **Drink With:** Shepherd's pie or simple but robust meat dishes

GERRARD SEEL: WINE MERCHANTS TO THE TRADE SINCE 1984

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ERNIE ELS BIG EASY RED

<https://gerrardseel.co.uk/products/ernie-els-big-easy-red>

The Ernie Els Big Easy Red offers a spicy, savoury richness; the Cabernet Sauvignon adds structure while dashes of Grenache, Mourvèdre and Cinsault give a classy Provençal feel. The juicy nose and palate is enhanced by gorgeously perfumed Viognier, adding an extra dimension of silky depth. Plenty of black and red fruits and a rich kirsch character lead to *pain grillé* notes and hints of Asian spice. Medium bodied and yet densely fruited, this charming wine finishes with a suggestion of toasted nuts and sweet red cherries. Fresh, velvety and delicious in its youth, it can also be drunk over the next four or five years.

The Shiraz, Cabernet Sauvignon, Mourvèdre and Viognier were sourced from the Helderberg region, within the Stellenbosch appellation. The Cinsault was also obtained from various sites in Stellenbosch. Grenache was grown in both Wellington and Stellenbosch vineyards. Each grape variety was vinified and aged separately before blending and bottling. Overall, the Ernie Els Big Easy Red spent 14 months in wood – 80% in 300 litre French oak barrels and 20% in 300 litre American oak barrels.

WHY WE LIKE THIS WINE

Well, Like Ernie himself, this wine offers a package of style and class. If a wine could be talented, this would surely be so. It has plenty of flavours, quite complex on the palate and good structure to support the generous fruit.

ABOUT THE GROWER

Ernie Els Wines was established in 1999, and from the outset the intention was to produce world class wines that mirrored the quality of some of the world's greatest bottles he had been fortunate enough to enjoy whilst playing. On his travels around the world, Ernie has been a great ambassador for South Africa and it was his desire that his wines do the same. The focus, discipline and commitment that Ernie displayed during his golf career were all brought to bear on his new project. Ernie chose Stellenbosch, right at the heart of South African winemaking, to create his winery and vineyards and for those of you lucky enough to visit the estate on the slopes of the Helderberg Mountain you'll find it manicured to perfection, both inside and out.

Louis Strydom is the man who crafts the wines at Ernie Els Wines and, ever since the first vintage in 2000, he has been regarded as one of the finest winemakers in the Cape. Ernie's love of Bordeaux is reflected in the choice of grape varieties planted and the wines produced at his estate, but they are all stamped with the

unique hallmark of South Africa.