



- **Country:** South Africa
- **Region:** Coastal Region
- **Subregion:** Stellenbosch
- **Vintage:** 2014/15
- **Colour:** Red
- **Grape Variety:** Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Malbec, Petit Verdot
- **ABV:** 14.5%
- **Bottle Size:** 75cl
- **Closure:** Natural cork
- **Style:** Bordeaux meets the Cape
- **Drink With:** Ribeye steak, rare

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ERNIE ELS SIGNATURE

<https://gerrardseel.co.uk/products/ernie-els-signature>

Perhaps the most serious Ernie Els Signature yet, the 2014 is a brooding, powerful Bordeaux-style blend produced from prime vineyards in the Helderberg appellation of Stellenbosch. Predominantly Cabernet Sauvignon, the purple edge and pitch black core immediately point to its unwavering nature and shadowy depth. Time in the glass uncovers notes of candied orange, cardamom, clove and black olives, leading to an intense palate that shines with graphite and cassis. It has a towering structure built on a foundation of crunchy tannins and pure fruit, all solidified by fine yet spicy oak. Long and rewarding, it finally ends with a touch of salted liquorice. This is best cellared for 5 to 10 years to allow the heady tannins to integrate further.

All fruit was sourced from the Ernie Els Wines property and each variety was separately managed to create unique and varied flavour profiles for this classic, Medoc-style Bordeaux blend. Ernie Els Signature was aged for 20 months in 300 litre French oak barrels, 70% of which were new.

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.