

La Motte

2019
MILLENNIUM™



ORIGIN

Grapes for the wine originate from vineyards in Stellenbosch, Wellington & Walker Bay.

VINTAGE

The 2018 winter was more favourable than the previous three years and with enough rainfall for dam levels to recover. Budding was good, although bunch formation was negatively affected by wet and windy conditions during flowering. The summer was relatively cool and harvest commenced slightly later than normal. Analyses were promising with acids and low pH levels. Bunch development was uneven and impeded harvesting time. This was one of the smallest harvests since 2015.

VITICULTURE

A variety of soil types and clones are represented, but each vineyard grows in its own macro climate. All the vineyards are trellised according to the Perold system and are managed to maintain the perfect balance between leaf coverage and yield. Thanks to the variety in terroir, each area produces distinctive grapes to contribute unique flavour and structure.

VINICULTURE

The blend consists of Merlot (48%), Cabernet Franc (37%), Malbec (10%) and Petit Verdot (5%). In the vineyards a combination of hand and machine harvesting are used. Grapes were sorted in the cellar and transferred to stainless steel tanks. Fermentation took place during pump overs and at between 25°C and 30°C.

MATURATION

The various components were matured separately for 12 months in old 300-litre French oak barrels, followed by blending and filtration. The wine was bottled in November 2020 and 29 500 cartons (6 x 750 ml) La Motte Millennium were released in June 2022.

ANALYSIS

Alcohol	13,60% vol
Residual sugar	2,5 g/l
Total acid	5,5 g/l
pH	3.54

CELLARMASTER'S IMPRESSIONS

The classic combination of Merlot and Cabernet Franc such as in the La Motte Millennium, is prominent in some of the world's most iconic wines. Malbec and Petit Verdot contribute intensity in colour, hints of spice as well as complexity and depth to the blend. Aromatic dark berries and plum fill the glass while nuances of fruit cake and toffee provide subtle sweetness. Barrel-derived spice and charred oak flavours are well integrated for a medium-bodied wine with soft, but lively tannins and a lingering berry aftertaste.

CONNOISSEUR'S CHOICE

A South African interpretation of the famous Bordeaux-style red blend, the La Motte Millennium responds very well to red meat and roasts. Its accommodating structure also allows for mild curries and hard cheese. It is exceptional with creamy sauces and the earthiness of mushroom.