

ESTATE: GABRIËLSKLOOF, BOTRIVIER  
RANGE: THE LANDSCAPE SERIES  
WINE: SYRAH ON SANDSTONE  
VARIETIES: SINGLE VARIETY  
VINTAGE: 2015



# GABRIËLSKLOOF

The Landscape Series of wines is an authentic representation of our top vineyards, as well as a few old vine treasures. We wanted the labels to reflect this and decided to commission local artist and friend Niël Jonker to capture the spirit of our Overberg landscapes. The first two wines to be released as part of the series were the Magdalena and Elodie in August 2016, with the Cabernet Franc and the two single vineyard Syrahs released in June 2017.

**“The idea behind having two Syrahs is to represent the two major soil types prevalent at Gabriëlskloof. Our sandstone vineyards produce a Syrah that is elegant and perfumed, while the heavier shale soils offer fruit concentration and depth.”** Peter-Allan Finlayson

#### VINTAGE

The 2015 vintage led to early proclamations that it is a Cape classic, and the wines are certainly backing this up. In his fourth annual guide to South African wines, award-winning British wine writer and Master of Wine Tim Atkin says the 2015 vintage is “the best I’ve tasted in 26 years...”. A wet 2014 provided ample reserves for the vines to develop happily through the warm and dry summer leading to early, but full ripeness and beautifully balanced wines.

#### VINEYARD NOTES

The Syrah from Sandstone site is mountainous and made up of broken Sandstone rock, making it incredibly tough for vineyards to grow. This merciless environment leads to low vigour and very small yields, resulting in a complex, unique wine.

#### WINEMAKING

The fruit was hand-picked into small crates and transferred directly into our cool room where it remained overnight. 70% of the crop was destemmed with the remaining 30% left as whole clusters. The wine was fermented wild and aged in 500L barrels for 18 months, with 30% new French Oak used.

#### TASTING NOTE

The bouquet is savoury, with black olive, white pepper and violets lifting from the glass, all highlighting this as a cool climate, rocky vineyard Syrah. This spice is complemented by elegant, delicate purity of fruit and a tannin base that will ensure its longevity.

#### AGEING POTENTIAL

Delicious now and into 2022.

#### TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Alk: 13.72% | RS: 1.73g/l | pH: 3.47 | TA: 5.64g

