

# CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

## TERROIR SPECIFIC WINES

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE SNEEUWKRANS PINOT NOIR 2016

AVERAGE TEMP: 15.5°C

RAINFALL: 540.6mm

HARVESTING BEGAN: 01/03/2016

HARVESTING ENDED: 04/03/2016

ORIGIN OF FRUIT: Elandskloof - Overberg

SOIL TYPE: Tukulu. Decomposed shale (grouwraakke)

YIELD: 6ton/ha

**THE VINEYARD:** Altima is situated in Elandskloof, an isolated valley north of Villiersdorp which is 5km wide and is surrounded by a steep mountain range that rises 1km from the valley floor. The steep topography causes the valley to receive less direct sunlight due to the overshadowing mountains, which together with the elevation of 600 to 800m this equates to a very cool climate for the valley. This unique terroir produces wines with a high natural acidity and upfront aromas. Grapes are harvested much later than other sites in the Western Cape, with harvest usually starting early in March. This vineyard produces an intense Pinot noir character with rich red fruit and a very fine and layered structure.

**WINEMAKING:** This vineyard was picked in 2 stages, the bottom part of the vineyard separate to the top part. The reason is a slight difference in ripening and different clones, each contributing to a range of flavours and structure. Grapes were hand-picked into small lug-boxes in the early morning and transported to the cellar in refrigerated trucks. All the fruit was de-stemmed and then fermented in old wooden tanks and small 1ton open top stainless steel tanks. These grapes were worked very gently during fermentation and after fermentation the wine was aged in old 225L French oak barrels for 10 months before being bottled. Bottle aged for 2 years.

**TASTING NOTES:** Delicate hints of rose petal with red berries being most prominent. Light brush of vanilla and sandalwood.

The palate offers up bright red cherries and strawberries. Deliciously alluring with deeper, spice nuance. Elegant, refined and poised with a solid core of fruit ably supported by integrated, seamless barrel maturation. Creamy oak richness which lingers long. A wine which changes in the glass but always holds your interest.

