KEERMONT TERRASSE 2018

61% Chenin blanc; 23% Chardonnay; 13% Sauvignon blanc; 3% Viognier

Terrasse is our barrel fermented white blend which derives its name from the terraced vineyards leading up the mountains on the estate. We have six different white wine varieties planted on these terraces and every year we make up a unique blend of them. The base is Chenin blanc from three distinctive vineyards - our old vine Riverside block planted in 1971, the dryland bush vine Bobbejaan Wingerd (Baboon Vineyard), and the trellised Low Road vineyard. The other varieties add complexity and create a more complete wine. Chardonnay gives a little more weight on the palate, Sauvignon blanc brings fresh acidity, and the drop of Viognier gives this vintage a slight spicy, aromatic lift.

All grapes used in producing our wines are grown on Keermont Vineyards. The farm is situated at the upper reaches of the Blaauwklippen Valley above Stellenbosch. Most of the vineyards grow in deep red clay rich soil derived from sandstone and granite and are surrounded by indigenous mountain vegetation. Small batches of grapes are specifically selected according to ripeness, harvested by hand and vinified separately. White wines are fermented by indigenous yeast in seasoned French oak barrels and then spend a further 12 months maturing on the lees. Bottling is carried out by hand without filtration.

2018

Keermont

Terrasse

Analysis

Alc: 13.50% pH: 3.28 TA: 5.7 g/L RS: 2.5g/L TSO2: 77mg/L VA: 0.49g/L

	Vineyard Blocks			
Block	Variety	Planted	Yield ton/Ha	Percentage of Blend
Riverside	Chenin Blanc	1971	3.1 ton/Ha	23%
Low Road	Chenin Blanc	2007	6.7 ton/Ha	15%
Bobbejaan	Chenin Blanc	2009	5.4 ton/Ha	23%
Uitkyk	Sauvignon Blanc	1988	4.6 ton/Ha	13%
Low Road	Chardonnay	2007	9.2 ton/Ha	15%
Die Terrasse	Chardonnay	2009	1.7 ton/Ha	8%
Cottage Lane	Viognier	2006	12 ton/Ha	3%

TASTING NOTE

A polished light-yellow gold colour, this wine has a complex bouquet of prominent citrus and stone fruit with notes of vanilla, freshly green cut apple, Frangipane flowers, and a hint of cut grass and earthiness. The wine has a soft juicy palate. Subtle fruit flavours of peach, litchi and apricot are complimented by hints of sweet spice, vanilla, and a notable richness from the lees contact. There is good weight on the mid-palate and a light texture. A limey acidity holds the wine together into a lingering, succulent finish. Drink 2021-2030.

VINTAGE REPORT

Despite prevailing drought conditions, 2018 was a very good growing season on Keermont. We had a fairly cold winter although it was drier than usual. Spring arrived quite early and the warm weather ensured an even budburst. We had some good rain showers during the season which allowed for the vines to grow sufficiently. These factors led to the formation of a healthy crop which ripened evenly. We had very notable diurnal temperature variation during this season (warm days and cool nights) which is responsible for good tannin, colour, and flavour development. Harvest started at the beginning of February and ran very smoothly. We processed 87 tons (13 varieties) in the Keermont winery over the period of seven weeks.

Keermont Vineyards is a specialist wine estate set in the naturally-formed amphitheatre between the Helderberg and Stellenbosch mountain ranges. We aim to grow wines that reflect the natural wonders of this beautiful place.

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