

ESTD 1692

# HARTENBERG

FAMILY VINEYARDS

## MERLOT 2017

*Hartenberg winemaker, Carl Shultz, won the Diners Club "Winemaker of the Year" award for the very fine 2004 Estate Merlot at the 2008 International Wine & Spirits Competition in London, our 2005 Estate Merlot placed 8th in the world*

*The vineyards were given a green harvest at véraison to ensure evenly ripe fruit. Picking was decided by tasting, thereby ensuring optimal ripeness. All grapes were handpicked and sorted in the vineyard, destemmed and lightly crushed. The grapes were cold-soaked and then inoculated with French-sourced yeast. The must was fermented between 24 and 26° Celsius and pumped over daily. An extended maceration took place, followed by fractional pressing. After settling, the wine went to French oak for malolactic fermentation.*

### TASTING NOTES:

The nose shows Rhubarb and dark chocolate whiffs. The palate is flush with flavours of plums and dark chocolate, with silky soft tannins that finish in a refined elegance.

### FOOD SUGGESTIONS:

Merlot pairs well with a range of foods. Panko crumbed pork with mustard cream sauce, roasted tomato pasta or a juicy hamburger with cheddar cheese topping.

### TECHNICAL & PRODUCTION:

Barrel Ageing	18 months in French oak, 40% new
Maturation	10 - 20 years from vintage
Alcohol	14,50% by volume
Residual Sugar	1,9 g/l
Total Acid	5,5 g/l
pH	3,48

### AWARDS:

2018 Vintage	4½ stars Platter's SA Wine Guide
2017 Vintage	4½ stars Platter's SA Wine Guide
2016 Vintage	Gold Medal Michelangelo Awards 2019 93 points Tim Atkin
2015 Vintage	4½ stars Platter's SA Wine Guide 93 points Tim Atkin GOLD MEDAL Decanter World Wine Awards (the only South African Gold medal for Merlot) Gold Medal Veritas Awards 2017
2014 Vintage	92 points Tim Atkin, 4 stars Platter's SA Wine Guide
2013 Vintage	4 stars Platter's SA Wine Guide
2012 Vintage	4 stars Platter's SA Wine Guide
2011 Vintage	4 stars Platter's SA Wine Guide
2010 Vintage	Gold Medal Concours Mondial 2014 Gold Medal Veritas, 4 stars Platter's SA Wine Guide
2009 Vintage	91 points Robert Parker



*Stellenbosch South Africa*

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