

THE BERNARD SERIES



SMALL BARREL SMV 2014

To his friends and family he was Pod, but to the Cape Winelands he was Bernard Podlashuk, the maverick winemaker. Never quite satisfied to be just ordinary, he is recognised for his daring vision, sheer audacity and unabated drive that helped place South African wine on the map. The legend of Bernard's tenacity and innovative flair lives on through the Bernard series, Bellingham's premium range of extraordinary wines.

Winemaker: Niël Groenewald

Varieties: 87% Shiraz, 10% Mourvèdre, 3% Viognier

Origin: Paarl

In the Vineyard: The grapes were hand-picked from three sites on the same farm in the Agter-Paarl region at an average ripeness of 26°Balling. All three components came from low yielding trellised vineyards planted in decomposed granite and overlying clay soils with good water retention capability.

In the Cellar: Bunch-selection at harvest was followed by berry selection on arrival at the cellar before natural co-fermentation between Shiraz, Mourvèdre and Viognier. The young wine underwent malolactic fermentation in French oak and was barrel matured for a period of 14 months.

Winemaker's Tasting Notes: Deep ruby with a bright crimson rim. A mosaic of alluring black and red berry and cherry aromas layered with dark chocolate, winter spice, rose and violet on the nose carried through to an intricate intensely fruited palate that is both powerful and graceful. A long, smooth, succulent finish of good length and complexity.

Cellaring and Serving: An attractive and instantly engaging wine with tremendous complexity already, but promises seamless integration and intrigue on maturation for up to ten years in the bottle. A great food wine that will match a variety of gastronomy, including rosemary roasted lamb, char-grilled beef steaks, spicy sausages or tomato based vegetable ragout.

Alc 14% | RS 4.5 g/l | pH 3.5 | TA 5.6 g/l

A WINE BY **Bellingham.**
FOUNDED 1893