



## Meerlust Rubicon 2018

main variety Cabernet Sauvignon

vintage 2018

analysis alc: 14.3 | ph: 3.63 | rs: 2.6 | ta: 5.54

type Red

producer Meerlust Estate

style Dry

winemaker Chris Williams

taste Fragrant

wine of Stellenbosch

body Full

### tasting notes

Very deep, youthful colour, and intense almost purple hue. Quintessential Rubicon nose with violets, ripe plum, cedar wood, fennel, and intense spiciness. A typical liquorice note also evident on the nose. Still young and intense, the palate is full bodied, structured but packed with fresh dark fruit and rounded tannins.

### ageing potential

This is a vintage that is more approachable in youth because of the ripeness and richness levels attained in 2018 but will provide great complexity with further maturation.

Can age for 10 - 20 years, provided wine is stored in ideal cellar conditions

### blend information

67% Cabernet Sauvignon, 19% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc, 4% Petit Verdot

### about the harvest

The 2018 harvest season was really challenging, due to a prolonged drought which some believe to be the worst in 100 years showing its impact. The winter months only cooled off later with higher-than-normal temperatures and the farm only receiving 80% of the expected winter rainfall. The dry weather throughout the season did have its advantages as vines were healthy, with little or no pests and diseases being recorded. The limited water availability also resulted in a smaller crop due to lighter bunches and very small berries. This coupled with the night temperatures that were cooler than usual during the ripening period, resulted in excellent colour and flavour development.

### in the cellar

The 2018 Rubicon is a classically proportioned blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot, every parcel of each variety was fermented separately before undergoing malolactic fermentation in 300 L barrels and large Foudré. After 8 months in barrel, the components were blended and given another 10 months in barrel for harmonization before bottling