



ORG DE RAC MERLOT

SKU: SAODRM

Org de Rac is an award-winning, organically-certified estate located near Picketberg in the region of Swartland, today the source of many of the country's most exciting wines. Org de Rac was established in 2001 as one of the first fully organic producers of South Africa and in 2005, the first wines were produced from vineyards on south facing slopes.

The wines are crafted by talented veteran winemaker Frank Meaker who has just overseen the shift towards completely vegan production methods. A wide range of wines are made, all with the common thread of great value and varietal definition.

The south-facing vineyards are planted in east to west allowing the prevailing cool westerly breezes off the Atlantic Ocean to clear the vines of any potential diseases. This has a noticeable cooling effect, creating a diurnal variation which stimulates colour in the grapes and slower, more even ripening, resulting in better fruit retention, balance and complexity in the finished wines. A range of cover crops are grown and biodiversity is encouraged amongst the vines. Only natural, organically certified treatments are used.

The grapes are destemmed and cold soaked for two days after which the grapes are inoculated for fermentation at controlled temperatures. During fermentation, frequent pump-overs are carried out to optimise extraction. This is done to ensure good colour and tannin extraction to enhance the length and mouthfeel of the wines. Ageing is partly in stainless steel and partly 2nd and 3rd fill barrels. The six different Merlot clones are aged separately before the finest performing clones are blended together prior to bottling to create the finished wine.

Grape: 100% Merlot

Tasting Note: A brilliant Merlot with great depth for this level. Packed with robust dark plum and coffee notes with hints of cherry and spice. Soft, ripe tannins provide the structure and the finish is long and satisfying.

Sugar Level: 2.8g/l

Food Match: Ideal with rack of lamb with mint sauce,

quail or roast duck.

Farming Practices: Organic - Vegan - Contains Sulfites.

Vintage: 2016

Closure: Plastic Cork

Awards: Michaelangelo - Gold & Platter Awards - 3 Stars

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