

Philippe Foucher

SYRAH · 2019

WINE OF ORIGIN PAARL

Wines are made not only for the moment of drinking, but for patience, memory, and time.

THE VINEYARD

Philippe Foucher comes from Syrah grown on the slopes of the Klein Drakenstein Mountains, where warm days are tempered by cooling mountain breezes. The sandy clay loam soils provide structure and concentration, while the elevation and airflow help preserve aromatic lift and freshness.

This is a site that gives Syrah both strength and restraint. Paarl terroir provides dark fruit, ripeness, and depth, but the mountain influence prevents the wine from becoming heavy. The result is a Syrah with intensity, smoothness, and a firm but elegant frame.

IN THE CELLAR

At La Luandière, the wines are made with an old-world understanding of time. They are not rushed into early charm or shaped for immediate applause. Each wine is allowed to carry the rhythm of the farm: the warmth of Paarl, the cooling breath from the Klein Drakenstein Mountains, the quiet strength of the soils, and the patience of traditional cellar work.

Our winemaking philosophy is one of minimal intervention, careful extraction, and long maturation. Fermentation is handled gently, with respect for the fruit and the natural structure of each cultivar. The wines are matured in French oak for approximately twelve months, then given

further time in bottle before release. This extended ageing allows the wines to settle, integrate, and reveal themselves slowly.

TASTING NOTES

The nose shows lustrous ruby tints on a medium to full bodied wine, with aromas of dark winter berries, sweet violet hint and a whisp of restrained wood. There is silky smooth plum, late picked blackberries and blackcurrant jelly here, with plush mulberry voluptuous fruit. A subtle hint of spice and pepper on the finish, and overall a feel of lace tannins, seamless harmony, soft and comforting texture.

It displays an "iron fist in a velvet glove" in its control of alcohol, quality oak, black fruit core and seductive mouthfeel.

CELLARING

These are wines made to age, not simply to survive time, but to become more complete through it. With patience, the fruit softens, the tannins become finer, the oak folds into the wine, and the deeper notes of earth, spice, mineral texture begin to emerge.

This is warm climate New World Syrah at its best, mellow, sleek, fullish, velvety and yet, poised, finely crafted and precise. Not the challenge, length or complexity of a Hermitage, perhaps, but hedonistic, very sexy, attractive and irresistible.

