

EDWARD ROSS 2018

Background:

Named for the Rascal and his sisters' Grandfather and considered to be the original Rascal in the family, Edward Ross had a rich and entertaining life. Choosing to forgo convention in many instances and often not endearing himself to many, nevertheless, he saw service in the South African Army and Navy in WWII. This wine honours his service and that of many others, many of whom made the ultimate sacrifice.

Vintage: 2018

Varietals: Shiraz (52%), Cab Sauvignon (34%), Cinsault (7%), Grenache Noir (7%)

Wine of origin: Western Cape (Stellenbosch and Paarl)

Vineyards: Sourced three different low-yielding vineyards in the Golden Triangle on the Helderberg mountains in Stellenbosch, from North facing slopes which are a combination of Hutton and Clovelly on a clay sub-base. The vineyards were planted in 1999 and 2008. The Shiraz was hand-harvested in mid-March and the Cabernet Sauvignon in the last week of March.

Winemaking: The Shiraz was harvested in the 2nd week of March at 24,5 Balling, and cold soaked for 3 days until natural fermentation kicked. Pump overs occurred twice a day. The Cabernet Sauvignon was harvested on the 23rd of March at 25 Balling, cold soaked for 3 days, and then inoculated in the open fermenter. Initially pumped over 4 times a day, and then after the first half of fermentation was complete, twice a day. Both varieties were pressed after total of 14 days on skins with malolactic in 40% new barrels and the balance in stainless steel. After racking all the wine was matured in 300L barrels for 18 months. The Cinsault and Grenache were fermented in closed top tanks and pumped over twice a day in order to maintain the wines' freshness. Maturation was in 4-5th fill barrels for 9 months. Bending was done in June 2019 and wine bottled in November.

Tasting notes: A full-bodied structured wine with great aging potential. Layered flavor of spices, plum and red fruits, backed by violets, black current and pencil shavings. On the palate the fruit flavor follows through on the full-bodied structure of the wine that ends on a savory note.

ABV: 14.39% pH: 3.61 RS: 2.6 g/l

Awards:

Tim Atkin South Africa Report 92 points

Platter Wine Guide 4.5*

Old Mutual Trophy Wine Show Silver Medal 91 points

