

# CIRCUMSTANCE

## CAPE CORAL MOURVÈDRE ROSE 2016



### IT'S REALLY ALL ABOUT THE VINEYARDS

Mourvèdre is one of the most underrated red grape wine varieties and it goes by 95 other names, including Mataró, which is used in Portugal.

It is a well-known Rosé variety used in regions such as Provence and the Rhône valley in France. Our Circumstance Cape Coral Mourvèdre is produced from grapes in the Stellenbosch wine growing region, characterised by relatively mild winters, and long hot summers. The vines are cultivated under dryland conditions and planted in cool, deep red soils which provide adequate water for this late ripening variety.

### A GENTLE HAND

Grapes were hand harvested and a gentle whole bunch pressing in our new horizontal basket press, extracted only the finest juice. No further maceration of the juice with the skins was allowed. The juice was run down via gravity into tank and left to settle naturally for 12 hours.

From there we racked the clean juice off to wooden fermenters to start the fermentation on its own, with wild yeasts that occur naturally in the vineyard.

The reason why we ferment in our older wooden fermenters is to ensure a slow ingress of oxygen throughout the process and therefore a longer fermentation without picking-up any oak aromas. The wine was then left on the primary lees to add further complexity before bottling.

### AND A FEW PRAYERS TO MOTHER NATURE FOR THE 2015/2016 GROWING SEASON

The Cape did not experience a very cold winter in 2015, with near perfect days lingering at 20 degrees Celsius. The evenings were cold but not excessively so. We also experienced the driest winter to date with half the normal rainfall.

Budburst took place at the beginning of September which was definitely earlier than usual. It was a proper spring with a lot of sun and warm temperatures.

We started picking a week earlier than last year (which was already early). A lot of the producers were significantly down on crop yield (some even up to 50%). Fortunately our biodynamic vines have a deep root system (approximately six metres deep), compared to conventional vineyards (digging only one meter deep) and we were not down on yield by too much.

With the berries being very small this year the flavours were fantastic. Some raisins still developed on the later varieties, which we got rid of in the cellar. The skins on the reds were thicker than normal but also brimming with concentration.

### TASTING NOTES FROM THE GLASS OF NADIA BARNARD

Pale salmon hue. Delicate floral aromas, with hints of minerality prominent on the nose. The palate is soft with a lingering aftertaste. Traditionally the wine is served chilled on its own, but also marries well with salmon and fresh dishes.

### THE NUMBERS (21 864 bottles produced)

Alc: 12% RS:1.2 TA:4.7 g/l pH: 3.37