

Gabriëlskloof,

`The Blend` Walker Bay 2019

Walker Bay, Bot River, Cape South Coast, South Africa



GABRIËLSKLOOF



PRODUCER

Gabriëlskloof is a beautiful wine estate located in the Overberg region east of Cape Town. It was purchased in 2001 by Bernhard Heyns, who had been on the lookout for the ideal place to plant vines. After planting, his first vintage was in 2009. We felt compelled to add Gabriëlskloof to our list because Peter-Allan Finlayson, Bernhard's son-in-law, took over as winemaker from the 2015 vintage. Peter-Allan is now Cellar Master and oversees general management of the property. The farm has 178 hectares, with 68 hectares planted to vines. The vineyards are farmed sustainably with the support of full time vineyard consultant Rosa Kruger. Their aim is to move to organic farming in the future.

VINEYARDS

The Gabriëlskloof winery is in the Bot River ward, where prevailing southerly winds from the nearby Atlantic Ocean create a mesoclimate perfectly suited to low-yielding vineyards. There are a variety of different soils on the farm. The Cabernet Franc vines are planted on a combination of Bokkeveld Shale and Table Mountain Sandstone, resulting in perfumed and spicy aromatics.

VINTAGE

The 2019 vintage is one of phenomenal quality across the board. Conditions were cool leading up to the harvest. The drought eased and led to some rainfall, but still a generally dry growing season produced low yields. This resulted in concentrated, characterful, age-worthy wines.

VINIFICATION

The grapes were hand picked for optimal fruit quality and bunches were destemmed. Fermentation took place in old French oak barriques using only indigenous yeast. The wine was then aged 18 months in old French barriques.

TASTING NOTES

This Bordeaux blend has aromas of blackcurrant, dark chocolate and nutmeg. The palate is structured with firm tannins and vivid acidity, leading to a long finish.

Grape Varieties	57% Cabernet Sauvignon
	29% Cabernet Franc
	8% Malbec
	6% Petit Verdot

Winemaker	Nina Muller
Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	14.5%
Residual Sugar	2.2g/L
Acidity	5.8g/L
Wine pH	3.63