

Gabriëlskloof,
`Whole Bunch` Syrah 2023
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 fruit for this wine is sourced exclusively from Gabriëlskloof's estate vineyards. Situated in the Bot River ward, the estate is exposed to prevailing southerly winds from the nearby Atlantic Ocean, which provide a cooling influence on the vines. This results in a longer growing season and encourages slower ripening and increased flavour development, while retaining fresh acidity.

VINTAGE

The 2023 vintage was characterised by low yields and early ripening, resulting in wines of excellent concentration and marked freshness. Late-season rain delayed ripening on reds, leading to challenges, but increased flavour development and elegance.

VINIFICATION

All of the Syrah grapes were picked by hand and whole bunch fermented for ten days to accentuate the variety's primary aromas. Inclusion of stems provided additional structure and freshness. The wine was aged in stainless steel tanks for eight months prior to bottling to retain the wine's fruit purity.

TASTING NOTES

This is a vibrant and fresh Syrah. The nose is brimming with vivid aromas of black cherry, raspberry and violets. The palate is juicy with lively purity of fruit, crunchy acidity and a peppery, savoury edge to the finish.

Grape Varieties	100% Syrah
Winemaker	Anmar van Niekerk
Closure	Diam
ABV	13.5%
Residual Sugar	2g/L
Acidity	5.8g/L
Wine pH	3.51
Bottle Sizes	75cl
Notes	Vegetarian, Vegan