

Gabriëlskloof,  
**Walker Bay Cabernet Franc 2022**  
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 single vineyard wine is sourced from a mountainside site on the Gabriëlskloof estate. Prevailing southerly winds from the nearby Atlantic Ocean create a cool mesoclimate, which promotes perfumed aromatics and fresh acidity. The soil is a combination of Overberg Shale and Table Mountain Sandstone, which results in a spicy complexity in the wine. The vineyard is 19 years old, and this shows in the depth and character of this wine.

### VINTAGE

A cold, wet winter and cool spring conditions set the vineyards up for a very good growing season in 2022. January showed a large swing in weather conditions with early January heat waves causing damage to bunches and required careful canopy management and attention in the vineyards. However, the vineyards' ability to retain water meant harvest was two to three weeks later than usual, resulting in enhanced flavour development in the grapes.

### VINIFICATION

The fruit was hand picked into crates and transferred directly to the winery where the fruit remained in a cold room overnight. The following day the fruit was entirely destemmed. The wine was fermented with indigenous yeasts, with daily pump-overs until fermentation came to a stop. The pressing occurred two weeks later. The wine went into barrels with 30% being new oak, and the wine spent 14 months in barrel prior to bottling.

### TASTING NOTES

The wine presents light lavender, mixed herbs, and cranberry aromatics on the nose. The palate offers a vibrant combination of raspberry compote, ripe black plums, and rhubarb. Lively, grippy tannins provide ideal counterpoint to the juicy red fruit flavours and sweet spice notes derived from judicious oak treatment. Together with bright acidity, these elements create an engaging, dry finish

Grape Varieties	<b>100% Cabernet Franc</b>
Winemaker	<b>Peter-Allan Finlayson</b>
Closure	<b>Natural Cork</b>
ABV	<b>14%</b>
Residual Sugar	<b>2g/L</b>
Acidity	<b>5.8g/L</b>
Wine pH	<b>3.46</b>
Bottle Sizes	<b>75cl</b>
Notes	<b>Vegetarian, Vegan</b>