



BOEKENHOUTSKLOOF
FRANSCHHOEK · CAPE OF GOOD HOPE



PORCUPINE RIDGE

SYRAH 2021

ABOUT PORCUPINE RIDGE

The Porcupine Ridge brand has its origins in the natural environment of the farm and the ongoing efforts to conserve the biodiversity on the property and the surrounding mountains. In addition to a number of rare fauna and flora species – such as the erica lerouxiae which is endemic to Boekenhoutskloof – the farm is home to a several Crested Porcupine families, which are however rarely seen due to their nocturnal lifestyle.

“These wines are honest, true to type, and true to cultivar. Our winemaking philosophy has always been to follow a natural approach of no acidification or additions. The resulting wines are much more about a generous palate weight than simple primary aromatics followed by acidity.” ~ Marc Kent

VINIFICATION & WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS

The 2021 Swartland vintage will be remembered for its moderate weather conditions that slowed ripening, resulting in excellent grape quality. Favorable growing conditions extended the ripening period, allowing healthy Syrah bunches of quality berries and great concentration. The Swartland being renowned for producing Syrah, we believe we can taste the unique climate and sunny shale soils in our wines made from this cultivar. The characteristic perfumey profile is classic, and the abundant violets are a hallmark of Swartland Syrah. We aim for structure and texture with pronounced aromatics, and textbook analysis enabled us to produce a wine with great varietal expression. Gentle winemaking practices with minimum intervention contribute to this beautifully approachable Rhône-style wine. We only use French oak barriques and always choose to focus on fruit rather than oak-derived flavors.

TASTING NOTE

An intense, fresh nose shows a dark compote, with aromas of ripe plums, blackberry, violets, musky earth, and exotic spice. The black fruit of the nose follows through with blueberries, juicy plums, fresh cherry, and bramble flavors, and hints of leather, cloves, licorice, and potting soil – a balanced, brooding wine with integrated acidity, prominent sweet spice, and smoky, savory nuances. The smooth, velvety tannins add outstanding balance to the mid-palate. The wine has a medium body and a plummy finish, with supple tannins, hints of dark chocolate, and sweet spice lingering on an ashy, iodine finish.

ANALYSIS

WINE OF ORIGIN WESTERN CAPE

ALC: 14.71%vol • RS: 3.1 g/l

TA: 4.8 g/l • pH: 3.89

