



## Merlot 2021

Blaauwklippen Range  
**WINE OF ORIGIN STELLENBOSCH**  
Winemaker: Narina Cloete

### CULTIVAR

Merlot 99%

### VITICULTURE

Grapes were grown in 2 vineyard blocks on our farm situated next to each other. Medium potential Klapmuts soil, planted narrow at 1,8m x 1.0m and with Vertical Shoot Positioning (VSP) trellis systems. Clones MO182 and MO343 were used and both blocks are under drip irrigation. Annual yield is between 7 and 10 tons/ha.

### WINEMAKING

Handpicked grapes were transported to the cellar for processing. Grapes fermented in stainless-steel tanks and twice daily pump-overs ensured the delicate extraction of tannins. The total time on the skins were 14 days before pressing. Malo-lactic fermentation and maturation followed in 300L French oak barrels (only 3<sup>rd</sup> fill and older) for 18months.

### TASTING NOTE

Mulberry, chocolate and cassis notes on the nose, with hints of spiced nuts. Chalky tannins with a smooth and lingering finish.

### FOOD PAIRING

Serve slightly chilled (18°C) it is great summer red wine. Pair with charcuterie platters and gourmet flatbreads with pullet pork or steak strips.

ANALYSIS	Alc.	RS	pH	TA
	14.87%	1.80 g/l	3.55	5.50

Founded in 1682, Blaauwklippen is one of the oldest wine farms in Stellenbosch. Etched between ancient blue granite boulders on the slopes of mineral-rich mountain soils, we produce authentic wines in harmony with the simplicity of country living.

[www.blaauwklippen.com](http://www.blaauwklippen.com)