



THELEMA

MOUNTAIN VINEYARDS

P.O. BOX 2234, STELLENBOSCH 7601, SOUTH AFRICA

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Thelema Merlot Reserve 2017

This wine is a blend of the best parcels within our merlot vineyards. A wine well structured and showing extraordinary concentrations of ripe berries and cedar wood. Will reward cellaring.

MATURATION

Will continue to develop well for 8 years.

FOOD PAIRING

Mushroom risotto, rich pastas and grilled meats.

VITICULTURAL PRACTICES

Varietal	Merlot – Clone 192
Root stock	R99
Soil type	Hutton – decomposed granite
Age of vines	Planted 1988
Plant density	3200 vines per hectare
Trellising	Vertical hedge
Pruning	2-bud spurs every 12cm
Yield	12 t/ha
Irrigation	Supplementary drip
Vintage	Cool summer days with very little rain, resulting in ideal growing conditions for grapes.
Picking date	13 February
Grape sugar	25.4 °B
Acidity	5.8 g/l
pH at harvest	3.36

WINEMAKING PRACTICES

Yeasts	Natural occurring yeasts
Fermentation temp	27 °C
Method	De-stalked, hand sorted, crushed, pumped into stainless steel fermentation tanks, cold soak for two days, and pumped over twice a day for 5 days, an aerated pump over in the morning and a closed circulation in the afternoon. After fermentation the wine is pressed and racked to barrel for malolactic fermentation.
Wood maturation	18 months in 100% new French oak barrels

WINE DETAILS

Residual Sugar	1.7 g/l
pH	3.37
Total acid	5.9 g/l
Alcohol	14.5% by volume
Maturation	2019 – 2028

WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS

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