



MEERLUST

Rubicon 2020

Stellenbosch, South Africa



VARIETALS:

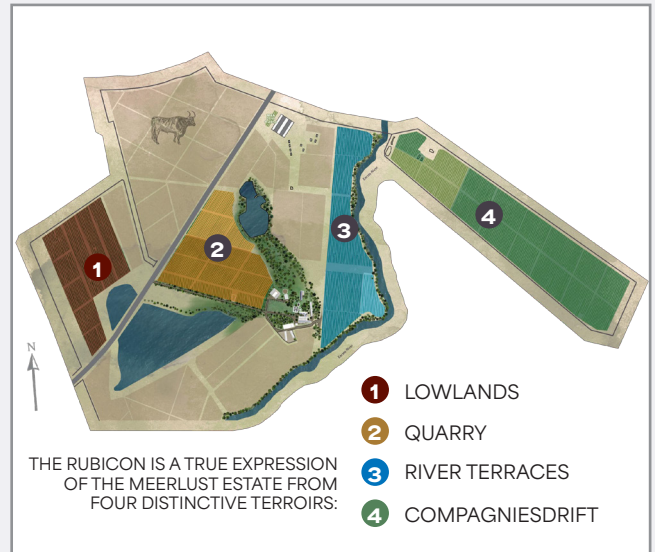
48% Cabernet Sauvignon
46% Merlot
5% Cabernet Franc
1% Petit Verdot

OVERVIEW

Meerlust Estate has been part of the Myburgh family tradition for eight generations, dating back to 1693. Long recognized for producing world-class wines, the Meerlust Estate is singularly rich in charm and history. Meerlust produces wines that are true to the intrinsic character of their vineyards located in the Stellenbosch region in South Africa. The diverse soils, the unique coastal climate and over 300 years of dedication are all essential components of Meerlust's complex, rich and truly distinctive wines.

WINEMAKING

The cabernet sauvignon is grown on low yielding, predominantly biotite partially decomposed granite gravel topsoil rich in quartz and feldspar to a depth of approximately 600mm with a loamy clay subsoil. The merlot vineyards are planted on more clay rich, yet well drained soils to ensure moisture retention and availability to the vines roots right through the summer. There are considerable deposits of iron-rich Laterite in the merlot vineyards which accentuates the fruit definition and mineral profile of the wine. The cabernet franc vineyard is situated on very well drained, stony Vilafontes soil with approximately 20% clay which is ideal for this variety. The petit verdot is on Oakleaf 3 soils on a northerly aspect to ensure full phenolic ripeness.



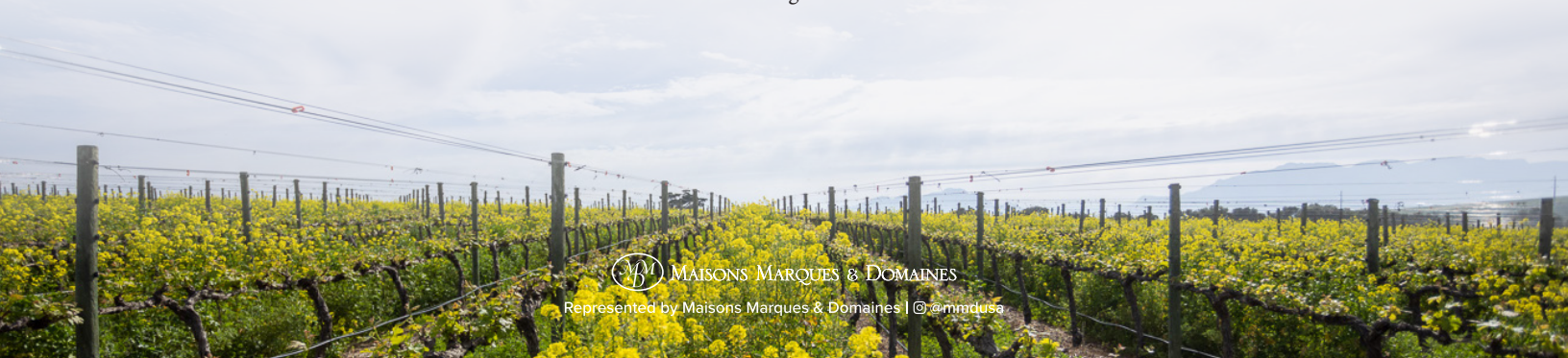
The 2020 Rubicon is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot, every parcel of each variety was fermented separately before undergoing malolactic fermentation in 300-liter barrels and large foudre. After 8 months in barrel, the components were blended and given another 10 months in barrel for harmonization before bottling. The 2020 sees the more mature Merlot vineyards coming more to the fore with almost equal part Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot in the final blend.

92
POINTS
Wine Spectator

A fragrant red, with dried mint, bay leaf and cigar box notes wafting through the ripe black currant, hot stone and apple wood smoke. This is long and well-meshed, layering the creamy profile with sculpted tannins and balsamico acidity. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. Drink now through 2035.

92
POINTS
Robert Parker
WINE ADVOCATE

The 2020 Rubicon is composed mainly of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot, with Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot in lesser proportions. The wine marks a triumphant return, after no Rubicon was released in 2019. The wine is densely fruit-forward, tightly wound and dusty, with clean aromatics that round out its robust character. It features a balanced, elegantly powerful palate with refreshing tannins and consistent acidity that keeps everything in check. The finish is notably food friendly, echoing with nuances of lead pencil. After eight months in the barrel, the components were blended and aged for an additional 10 months in barrels.



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