

DE TRAFFORD 'ELEVATION 393' 2015

Country
South Africa

Region
Stellenbosch

Varietal
46% Cabernet Sauvignon
27% Syrah
27% Merlot

Winemaker
David Trafford

Alcohol Content
14.93%

Total Sulfur
31ppm

Residual Sugar
1.7 g/l

Acidity
5.2 g/l

HISTORY

The property was first purchased in 1976 by the Trafford family with aspirations to have a winery. Due to a (then) South African law regarding quota restrictions, the Traffords waited 18 years -making wine for family and friends- before the law was lifted in 1991 to expand as a commercial winery. The de Trafford winery was established in 1992 in Mont Fleur by architect David Trafford & artist wife Rita with the focus on high end red wines of great intensity & longevity, using minimal intervention production methods. A small family winery at the end of Blaauwklip Road between the Stellenbosch and Helderberg mountains in South Africa.

The labels reflect both David's former career in architecture (on the Elevation 393 Labels) and Rita's eye and passion for design and her collection of silk scarves (on the Chenin Blanc labels), as well her own artwork around the winery. Total production of 3500 cases a year.

VINIFICATION and MATURATION

Hand-harvested and de-stemmed.. Spontaneous fermentation with the cap of skins punched down manually 1-4 times daily for 12-15 days. Wine drained directly to barrels from a single-pressing from basket press. Malolactic fermentation in the barrel. Majorily new French oak inclusion. Blending after 9 months, 20 months barrel aging. Bottled by hand, unfined and unfiltered.

VINEYARD



Vineyard site is at 393m in elevation on the eastern slopes of the Helderberg mountain. Soil deep red decomposed granite - Hutton type. 20-30 year old vines.

TASTING NOTES



Rich intense spicy fruitcake nose with a mix of black and red berries. Some fine tobacco, toast and cedar from the fine French oak. Intense, concentrated palate with thick, broad tannins, though still fine. Long finish. (David Trafford).



FOOD PAIRING

Lamb burgers, ribeye steaks, aged cheeses.