

EXCELSIOR



Excelsior San Louis Shiraz 2012

In 1979 San Louis fell ill, stopped eating and grew tremendously weak. His grave was dug, but as he was being let to it, the decision was made to try and treat him for a little longer. Seven months later he had recovered completely. On 7 February 1981 San Louis won the 1600m Guineas horse race, one of South Africa's most prestigious races. This vineyard is situated on deep, calcareous soils that allow deep root penetration. This enables the vineyard to withstand heat and drought.

In The Cellar

The Shiraz grapes were harvested on 10 March at 24.5° balling. The wine was fermented for 7 days on the skins with twice daily pump overs. The wine was aged in 30% new American oak barrels for 18 months. Only 300 cases of this wine was produced.

Vintage Conditions

The weather of the 2012 vintage was ideal for ripening a perfect crop. The winter was cold and wet, and the spring and summer dry and mild. Absolutely zero disease was experienced, and harvest was carried out when the grapes were perfectly ripe.

Analysis

*Alcohol 14.4%
Acidity 5.7g/l
pH 3.50
Residual Sugar 3.6g/l*

Winemaker's notes

This wine has an explosive nose of chocolate, espresso, fruitcake and sweet oak spice. The palate is rich and very soft, with ripe flavours of black cherries and a long rich aftertaste.

Food pairing by in-house chef

T-bone steak med/rare served with monkeygland sauce will complement the nose of chocolate and espresso

