



SYRAH  
*Merindol*  
SOUTH AFRICA

Simonsig  
Merindol Syrah

“Highlights”

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2018

•96 – DECANTER, *July 13, 2022*

“...Greg Sherwood MW: A wonderfully perfumed expression with top notes of red cherry, violets and peppercorn spice. Lithe and elegant; a long, cool weightless concentration makes for a serious glass of wine. Daniel Grigg: Brooding dark fruits, blackcurrant jam, damson and black plum. Notes of black olive tapenade. Roger Jones: Clean, focused and layered with a nice balance of spiced damsons, crunchy blueberries and hints of cedar, some dry savory mouthfeel at the end, which opens to bring in sweet-cured bacon.”

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2014

•91 – WINE ENTHUSIAST, *December 2017*

“This Pinotage-based blend, with 29% Cabernet Sauvignon and 8% Merlot, opens with intense aromas of boysenberry, blackberry and plum that are hit with earthy accents of tree bark, balsamic herbs and cigar. The fruity concentration continues through to the rich, plush palate, framed by bold tannins that lend overall balance and structure. Final notes of cocoa nib, toasted spice and charred earth grace the long finish.”

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2012

• 91 – WINE ENTHUSIAST, *December 31, 2016*

“This is a dense and complex pour. Rich, dark fruit aromas and flavors of cherry, plum and boysenberry are handsomely graced by spicy tones of licorice, black pepper and wood spice. The mouthfeel is plush and powerful, with structured tannins that frame the ripe black-fruit flavors. Hints of leather, baking spice and just a touch of iron flesh out the finish.”

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2011

•92 – WINE ENTHUSIAST, *March 1, 2014*

“This wine is immediately attractive and seductive, with forward floral notes of crushed iris and violet that are supported by a decadent ripe-fruit core of black raspberry, wild cherry and boysenberry. Woody tones of toasted coconut and vanilla add richness to the dense, fully structured palate, while hints of black pepper and cocoa nib blossom on the finish. Delicious now, but should age well through 2018.”

•90 – WINE ADVOCATE #215, *October 2014*

“The 2011 Merindol Syrah, which comes from a selected vineyard site planted in 1996 and sees 17 months in new French oak, has a more introverted nose compared to the Pinotages with dusky black fruit, red plum and a faint marine influence. The palate is medium-bodied with rounded and fleshy tannins, a savory edge with black pepper and truffle on the finish. There is a sense of ease about this Syrah and it should age nicely over several years.”

•90 – WINE & SPIRITS, *February 2014*

“There’s a purple glow to this wine’s red depths of color, as if to mirror the full-on herbal spice that adds structure and detail to the tannins. It feels cool, crisp and mouthwatering, and while there’s some ash to the tannins, the wine holds fresh. This will benefit from several years of bottle age and a braised shoulder of lamb.”