



# Barttinney Skyfall Cabernet Sauvignon 2018

## ***Terroir***

Barttinney Wine Estate is nestled against the steep slopes of Botmaskop in the Banghoek valley. The 29Ha farm comprising 17Ha of vineyards and a floral kingdom of fynbos and indigenous trees, has a uniform terroir. Well drained, deep red gritty soils provide an excellent medium for vineyards to produce good quality grapes.

The 8 Cabernet blocks, planted in different areas on the farm stretches from 350 to 550 metres above sea level. The vineyards, planted on variable steepness slopes, faces north – to northeast. These cool slopes, plays a leading role in the slow ripening of the grapes, resulting in Cabernet Sauvignon with fine grained tannins, and understated power. This ideal terroir creates precursors for the production of excellent grapes with which to make beautiful wine.

## ***Harvest and Winemaking Information***

Skyfall is a blend made from 3 areas, within the 8 blocks on the farm, which produce the best grapes. The 2 highest planted blocks, enjoying the longest sunshine hours per day, produce wines with bright berry fruit flavours and supple tannins. Midway down, is an easterly slope vineyard which produces densely structured wines. Together they are blended and bottled as Skyfall.

The drought of the last few years continued late into autumn and only 80% of the hoped for rainfall was received in the winter of 2018. Spring came early and was warm. Temperate fluctuations and above average rain (although welcomed) during flowering and berry set, caused uneven berry and bunch sizes. Cool nights during the ripening period helped good color and flavor development.

The somewhat uneven ripening was combatted with extra rigorous handpicking and sorting during this challenging season.

Selective picking and hand sorting of grapes ensured that only the best grapes end up in the fermentation tank. During fermentation, the must was pumped over in stainless steel fermenters and punched down in open top wooden vats. Total time on the skins before pressing can be up to 25 days. The wine was then matured for up to 18 months in French oak 225l barrels, of which up to 80 % is new.

## ***Tasting Notes***

The first impression on the aroma is of ripe plum with cinnamon and nutmeg spice. The palate is reminiscent of dark chocolate shavings and sweet berry compote. Boldly structured tannins, supported by the flavor of vanilla pod and cedar, are signature of the vintage. Although the growing season was warm and dry, the overall impression of the wine is that of a cool origin. The Banghoek air temperature which is lower than Stellenbosch, and the meticulous selective picking and sorting of berries, has especially paid off, and is reflected in the purity of the fruit.

### ***Technical Analysis***

Alcohol: 14.5 %  
Residual Sugar: 1,5 g/L  
Total Acidity: 5.7 g/L  
pH:3.7

### ***Vineyard Information***

Soil: Oakleaf and Tukulu  
Aspect: North to North East,  
South West and East  
Elevations: 150 – 550m above sea level  
Total Hectare: 12 ha  
Rootstock: Richter 99 and 101

