

# Stellenbosch

RIDGE

## Concept

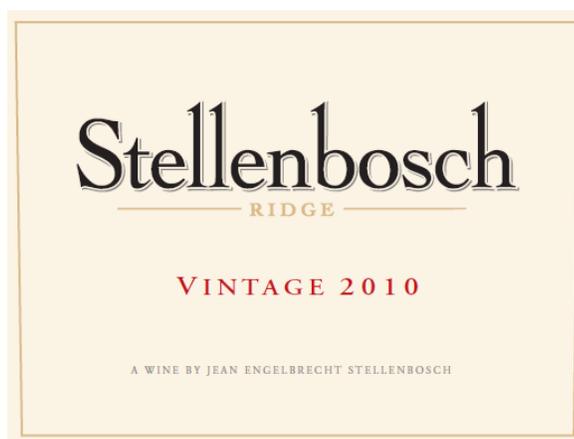
"In my opinion no portfolio is complete without a Bordeaux style blend. Stellenbosch is a unique town that is the centre of fine wine, academia and culture in South Africa. It is distinguished by the dramatic mountain ridges that cradle the town. Stellenbosch is birthplace and home to many of South Africa's greatest leaders, intellectuals, artists, scientists, sportsmen and winemakers. Stellenbosch Ridge pays homage to Stellenbosch and its rich heritage. I raise a glass to my friends Dillie Malherbe and Jannie Durand whose brainchild it was." - Jean Engelbrecht

**Grape Variety** : 71% Cabernet Sauvignon,  
16% Merlot,  
8% Petit Verdot,  
5% Malbec

**Appellation** : Stellenbosch

**Analysis** : Alcohol – 15.02 vol%  
: pH – 3.67  
: Acidity – 6.2g/l  
: Res. sugar –3.2 g/l

**Winemaker** : Coenie Snyman



## Climate

Mediterranean rainfall of approx 650mm per annum. The vineyards are situated at the upper end of the valley, hence the slightly warmer and more moderate climatic conditions, resulting in optimum grape berry ripeness. The grapes are sourced from vineyards from 83m up to 250m above sea level.

## Soil

The Stellenbosch vineyards where the grapes are sourced from have a mixture of Tukulu, Clovelly, Oakleaf and Hutton soils. Deep and red in colour, the soil shows good water retention, and is a rich vineyard soil. Soil moisture is carefully monitored and supplemented by drip irrigation.

## Vinification

Fermented in open-top fermentors, with the cap manually punched down 3-5 times per day. Primary fermentation took 7 days, followed by a 10-21 day maceration period. Malolactic fermentation took place in barrels and the wine was then left in 40% new French oak for 18 months. The wine is then blended and bottled, and only after a further 6 months of bottle-maturation is the wine released.

## Tasting Notes

**Colour** – Intense Ruby.

**Aroma** – Ripe plum and fresh cherry are prominent with subtle hints of forest floor.

**Palate** – A full, well-structured wine that has a great follow-through of the ripe fruit onto the palate. This wine shows elegant integration and a balanced, velvet finish.