



ERIKA OBERMEYER WINES

### **Erika O Syrah Grenache Noir Cinsault 2019, Wine of Origin Coastal**

**Vineyards:** Syrah from 18 and 10 year-old vineyards in Firgrove planted on decomposed granite soils.

Bush vine Grenache Noir from Voor Paardeberg planted on granite soils. Cinsault from a dryland farmed 34 - year-old bush vines in Agter-Paarl planted on Malmesbury Shale.

**Vintage 2019:** The aftermath of the drought from the previous three years, together with fluctuating weather conditions resulted in a very small crop for vintage 2019.

The post-harvest period was very dry. Both April and May were relatively cool and the leaves remained on the vines for long. The winter rainfall was higher than the previous two winters, but still average compared to the long-term average. Good rainfall occurred from mid-May to the end of June and the cold weather conditions were sufficient during this time to meet the vines' needs. The rainfall during July was low with very high day and night temperatures. August and September showed improved rainfall and the cover crops generated sufficient organic material. The extremely warm weather at the end of July led to most of the vineyards experiencing early bud burst.

Uneven bud burst occurred due to fluctuating weather conditions during September, which were characterised by regular cold fronts. Ongoing cold and wet conditions furthermore led to the shoot growth developing at a slower pace. The roots were not very active due to the low soil temperatures and the leaves appeared yellowish in general. However, the vineyards' growth accelerated when the temperatures started getting warmer towards the end of September. Gale force winds as well as a cold front during mid-October caused some damage to the vineyards. The wind, as well as extremely high temperatures towards the end of October led to poor berry set. Major uneven patterns occurred after berry set.

January had cool weather conditions but a very warm period at the end of January which accelerated the ripening of the fruit. Although the temperatures fluctuated significantly after this with cooler weather towards the end of February and beginning of March, the grapes reached sugar levels at a slow pace.

Harvest timing was normal and the Syrah, Grenache Noir and Cinsault were all harvested from 14 - 22 February 2019.

The 2019 harvest produced wines of excellent quality despite the challenging weather conditions experience and produced wines with excellent flavours, good colour and acidity and soft tannins.

**Fermentation & Maturation:** Fermented in open top fermenters with 2 - 3 punch downs per day. Matured in 1st - 4th fill 300 li and 500 li French oak barrels for 15 months. 25 % 1st fill barrel, 35 % 2nd fill and 40 % 3rd - 4th fill barrel.

**Tasting note:** This impressive red blend of 65 % Syrah, 22 % Grenache Noir and 13 % Cinsault showcases the remarkable fruit intensity, freshness and elegance of these varietals. The nose is alluringly perfumed, showing vibrant aromatics of red cherries, wild berries, fynbos, pepper spice and black olives. Multi-dimensional and multi-layered, the palate delivers a textured mouthfeel and silky -smooth finish.

#### **Analysis:**

<b>Alc: 14.07 %</b>	<b>RS: 2.9 g/l</b>	<b>TA: 5.6 g/l</b>	<b>pH: 3.42</b>	<b>VA: 0.58</b>
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