

Unlocking Nature  
Environmentally Responsible



**VILLIERA WINES**  
STELLENBOSCH  
a Grier family wine



## MERLOT

**VARIETY:** 100 % Merlot

**VINTAGE:** 2012

**AREA OF ORIGIN:** Stellenbosch

**PRODUCT BACKGROUND:** Merlot was initially planted as a blending partner for Cabernet Sauvignon. The softer style was designed to round off the Cabernet Sauvignon. When the market indicated a liking for softer red wine, Merlot was included in our range as a stand alone variety.

**HARVEST DETAILS:** In 2012, good, healthy fruit was picked at optimum ripeness – determined by aroma assessment (i.e. maximum fruit intensity).

**CELLAR TREATMENT:** The wine was fermented in rototanks between 20 °C and 25 °C with 30 % whole berries. Of the total 40 % was pre-soaked for 2 days and 25 % was macerated post fermentation.

Oak Maturation: 30 % centre of France new tight grain barrels  
70 % used French oak barrels

**TASTING NOTES:** The colour of the wine is brilliant red. The aroma shows hints of wood spice and mint with attractive dark berry fruit. On the palate the wine is rich and full with juicy soft tannins and good acidity. The wine has a long finish but is drinkable at present. It will however mature for up to six years from vintage.

### ANALYSIS:

Alcohol:	13.6 vol %
Residual Sugar:	2.2 g/li
Total Acid:	5.3 g/li
pH:	3.55

**VILLIERA WINES, KOELENHOF**  
Tel: +27 (0) 21 865 2002 Fax: +27 (0) 21 865 2314  
e-mail: [wine@villiera.com](mailto:wine@villiera.com)  
[www.villiera.com](http://www.villiera.com)