

ATLAS SWIFT

PREMIUM WINES



Shelter Red Blend 2021

WINEMAKER	Martin Smith
COMPOSITION	56% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Malbec
ORIGIN	Paarl & Wellington
AGE OF VINES	6 - 23 years
IRRIGATION	Supplemental / drip and dry-land
SOIL TYPE	Clay with some shale and quartz
PRODUCTION VOLUME	1887 x 750ml
AGEING POTENTIAL	6 to 8 years from vintage

VINTAGE CONDITIONS

The 2021 harvest kicked off around two weeks later than normal due to unusually cool weather conditions throughout the season, which persisted throughout harvest time. Good colour extraction, low pH levels and high natural acidity all point to exceptional quality wines.

VINIFICATION

Each component was hand-harvested at a fairly ripe 25 Brix and fermented on the skins in small open-top fermenters, with daily punch-downs of the cap. The wine was pressed at 5 Brix, and transferred to 225L French oak barrels for malolactic fermentation and a maturation period of 22 months. After bottling, the wine was aged for a further 10 months prior to its release.

TASTING NOTES

Aromatic scents of blueberries, red currants, cassis and balsamic vinegar, supported by undertones of purple basil, graphite and black pepper. The alcohol is in balance with a core of intense black fruits, while the tannins are grippy yet ripe and supple. Approachable in its youth due to the larger Merlot component. The acidity adds freshness to the fruit, and the black pepper adds depth to the long finish, akin to a classic Saint-Émilion red.

ALC 14.11% | RS 2.4 g/l | TA 5.6 g/l | VA 0.77 g/l | pH 3.67 | FREE SO2 27 mg/l | TOTAL SO2 85 mg/l