



**Wine:** The Back Roads Petite Sirah 2018

**Wine of Origin:** 100% Franschoek "Matoppie"

**Bottling date:** 2 September 2020

**Production:** 1984 x 750ml

**Technical Analysis:**

Alcohol	Extract	Ph	TA	VA	FSO2	TSO2	RS
14.49 %vol.	27.3 g/l	3.36	5.9 g/l	0.56 g/l	35mg/l	94mg/l	2.5g/l

**Source of Grapes:**

The fruit for our The Back Roads Petite Sirah 2018 was selected from a single vineyard growing on the slopes of "Matoppie" in the Franschoek Valley. The vineyard sits on a North- East facing slope and grows in beautiful decomposed Table Mountain sandstone.

**Harvest dates:** 21 February 2018

**Winemaking:**

All our fruit are handpicked and chilled in our cold room overnight. The following day they are destemmed and transferred to 500kg fermentation bins or barrel for fermentation. We do not crush our berries and 30% whole bunches are added to each ferment. 30mg/l SO<sub>2</sub> is added at this stage and no other chemical additions (acid, enzymes or tannins) made. The grape must is allowed to macerate for 3-4days before fermentation starts spontaneously. Fermentation lasts for 7-12days at a maximum of 28°C. To extract colour, flavour and tannin from the grape skins the must is mixed by hand 2-3 times daily according to extract and tannin development. A short post ferment maceration is allowed to soften and focus tannins. At this stage the wine is drained and the skins pressed using our old basket press and transferred directly to barrel for malolactic fermentation and maturation. After completion of malolactic fermentation the wine receives a racking to remove solids and a SO<sub>2</sub> addition before being laid down for a 24months maturation period. At 18 months the final blend was assembled and allowed to mature for a further 6 months prior to bottling. The wine received no fining and a light filtration before bottling, decanting is recommended within the first 3-5 years.

**Maturation:** 24months in used (5-8year old) French oak barrels.

**Tasting note:**

This is our 6th vintage of the “Matoppie” Petite Sirah, and yet again this wine is not about elegance or finesse, it’s about electric guitars and drums. This is Dave Grohl on the drums or Bakkies Botha on the loose. The nose has a powerful grape like aroma with loads of black currant, pepper and tobacco leaf. The palate is dense with intense flavours of dark chocolate, black fruits, crushed pepper and cassis with a healthy dose of tannins and bright acidity. Decanting recommended.

CHEERS!