



BELLINGHAM

FOUNDED IN 1693

THE FOUNDERS SERIES POD RED BLEND 2020

The Founders Series is a very small selection of the best wine in the cellar. It follows the Bellingham style and maximum of 5 barrels are selected every year, but only bottled and released in exceptional vintages. The concept is to honour Bellingham's pioneering founders, Fredagh and Bernard Podlashuk, affectionately known as Freda and Pod.

This power couple's bold vision not only for their iconic brand, but the South African wine industry as a whole, left a legacy for the ages. A rare greatness and inspiration, something that these special wines aim to emulate.

WINE OF ORIGIN: Coastal Region

BLEND: Pinotage 60% Shiraz 40%

IN THE VINEYARD:

This is where the magic begins for this magnificent red blend. The Pinotage and Shiraz vineyards used for this blend, are both grown in weathered decomposed-granite soils on the slopes of Darling. As one of South Africa's coldest wine-growing regions, Darling is best known for producing complex and powerful Pinotage wines as well as spicy Shiraz wines that are both silky and elegant. The vineyards are dry-land farmed with low natural crop yields of just 6 tons per hectare. Only the very best grape bunches are selected and hand-picked before being brought to the cellar at the break of dawn to ensure the grapes are as cool as possible prior to vinification.

IN THE CELLAR:

When the grapes arrive at the cellar, they undergo a second berry selection and sorting ensuring only the finest quality fruit continue on the journey. The Pinotage was punched down by hand during fermentation, while the Shiraz was gently pumped over for optimal colour and tannin extraction. After malolatic fermentation in barrel, 50% of the wine was matured in new French oak and 50% in second fill barrels for 16 months. Only the 3 very best barrels were selected to produce 850 bottles of this vintage.

TASTING NOTES:

The revered treatment this Cape Blend receives from vineyard to cellar, shows in its tasting. The wine is corpulent and fragrant, brimming with rich and layered dark fruit, black cherries and plums on the nose. The palate shows rich and generous fruit, and yet it is balanced and fresh with chalky tannins that are velvety and coating. The finish is harmonious with persistent sweet and savoury spice. The wine is defined by its cool-climate origins being both powerful and graceful.

FOOD PAIRING SUGGESTIONS:

With depth of flavour, fragrant spice and integrated, firm tannins, this luxurious wine is an excellent match for a wide variety of gourmet cuisine. Complementary dishes include richly sauced beef or venison fillet, pork belly and black forest dessert.

ANALYSIS:

Alc: 14,2% | TA: 5,61 g/l | pH: 3,55 | RS: 2,93 g/l

