

12 MILE SYRAH

Introducing the Old Road Wine Co. Elite Range, a selection of ultra-premium regional-specific wines, handcrafted with meticulous attention to detail from vineyard to bottle. From the rugged corners of the Cape's wine country, this Syrah reflects the loyal perseverance of the postman of old. Not deterred by rain or shine, a 12-mile distance or fatigue, this messenger never faltered.

Origin: Swartland | **Vintage:** 2023 | **Grape variety:** 100% Syrah
Aspect: West and North-West facing slopes | **Soil:** Cumulic soils - Oakleaf, Tukulu
Proximity to the ocean: 420m above sea level | **Optimum serving temperature:** 12-14°C

In vineyard:

The grapes used to make this cool-climate Syrah are cultivated in light granite soils and are carefully managed for ultra-premium quality, which includes green harvesting and leaf removal on both sides for excellent colour. Grapes are hand-harvested at optimum ripeness, and dryland farming is applied to obtain good concentration.

In the cellar:

In the cellar, 15% of the wine is fermented on stems. Cold fermentation takes place in open fermenters with punch-downs performed three times a day. The secondary malolactic fermentation takes place in 500L French oak barrels. The wine remains in the barrel for 8 months and then undergoes a light fining before bottling.

Tasting notes:

This restrained, delicate treatment resulted in a great example of the new elegant style of South African Syrah. It is spicy and rich with textured layers and ripe, but fresh berry fruit. On the nose, there are inviting black fruits with aromatic notes of white pepper and coriander. On the palate soft, velvety tannins combine with lingering dark plum fruit and great structure for a memorable taste encounter.

Maturation:

8 months in a combination of 2nd and 3rd use French oak barrels.

Alc: 13%, RS: 2.7, TA: 5.7, pH: 3.6

