



This is a salute to the Saboteurs!

The Anarchists. The Revolutionaries. To those who break the rules and defy the status quo. The Craftsmen. The Artists. The Pioneers. Those who do not bow down and conform; nor blindly accept. Those whose passion bleeds through their art. The Pioneers who forge ahead with insight, wisdom and vision, challenging the norm and questioning convention. Those who are driven by their knowledge and their belief in a better way. Those who stand up to be counted! Luddites, fight your cause, provoke, remonstrate, interrogate. Be true to yourselves, your art, your craft. Lead the way.

Unite! - Saluez Le Saboteur!

## Saboteur 2021 Red Blend

Finally, after six dry years, we had a normal rainfall year giving us slightly bigger crops and bigger berries. This has resulted in the 2021 Saboteur Red being lighter and fresher in style than the previous five vintages. This bright red fruit gives the wine an immediate drinkability.

The Cabernet Sauvignon, Grenache Noir and Mourvèdre were all fermented in small batches in open bins. We used less stalks than previous years due to the lighter vintage. Most of the Shiraz was fermented in stainless steel tanks with regular pump overs. All the components were pressed directly into barrel and aged separately. Some of the batches did malolactic fermentation in barrel which gives a fuller mouth feel and structure. This vintage was in barrel for 12 months with 20% new French Oak.

During the blending process, great care was taken to follow the house style of Saboteur, which is increasingly building up a huge following, ie. bold fruit, good spice and soft tannins. The blend this year is 60% Shiraz, 15% Grenache Noir, 13% Cabernet Sauvignon and 12% Mourvèdre. A small portion of the Grenache Noir is from the 2022 vintage which lifts the freshness and red fruit spectrum of this wine.

### Grapes were sourced from six vineyard sites:

Bot River, Gabriëlskloof Mourvèdre harvested on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
 Bot River, Luddite young block Mourvèdre harvested on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
 Overberg, Kempstrivier Grenache Noir harvested on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
 Bot River, Luddite Grenache Noir harvested on 25<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
 Bot River, Gabriëlskloof Shiraz harvested on 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021  
 Greyton, Greyton Oaks Shiraz harvested on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021  
 Bot River, Gabriëlskloof Cabernet Sauvignon harvested on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021  
 Overberg, Kempstrivier Shiraz harvested on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021  
 Bot River, Anysbos Grenache Noir harvested on 19<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021  
 Bot River, Luddite young block Cabernet Sauvignon harvested on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2021  
 Walker Bay, Ou Meul Cabernet Sauvignon harvested on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021

### Average analysis of fruit at harvest:

23.5° Balling, TA – 5.6 g/l, pH – 3.65

### Tasting Notes:

Appearance: Ruby to bright red.

Nose: Bright red and cherry fruit with allspice.

Palate: Juicy red fruit on entry. Vibrant fruit on mid-palate. Medium structured with a long elegant refreshing finish.

### Analysis of the wine:

Alcohol: 14.3%      pH: 3.65      TA: 5.5 g/l      RS: 2.2 g/l

23 800 bottles of this vintage were produced (12 800 cork, 11 000 crown cap & 1 030 magnums)

Tasting notes dated 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023.