



Erika O Cabernet Sauvignon 2019, Wine of Origin Stellenbosch

Vineyards: Fruit from a 10-year-old vineyard planted on deep granitic soils in Firgrove, Stellenbosch.

Located between Somerset West and Stellenbosch, Firgrove's terroir is defined by its proximity to the Atlantic and its ancient geological history. Just 6km from False Bay, the vineyards benefit from cooling ocean breezes and winds that naturally limit vine vigour, leading to small, concentrated berries with deep flavour.

The unique soil structure consists of a well-drained granite gravel top layer over a porous "coffeestone" (laterite) middle. Beneath this lies saprolite (decomposed granite), which acts as a "water bank," allowing roots to dig deep for moisture and nutrients during the dry season. This combination ensures slow ripening and produces wines with excellent structure.

Vintage 2019: The 2019 harvest was characterized by high quality, lower-than-average yields, and a cooler growing season that favoured flavour concentration. Despite being a challenging, low-yielding vintage across the region due to lingering drought effects, the moderate summer temperatures helped produce exceptional Cabernet Sauvignon with excellent colour and phenolic ripeness

The 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon from this sub-region represents a confident, structured style that balances power with finesse, showing the maritime influence of False Bay in its structural, lingering finish

Fermentation & Maturation: Hand harvested. Fermented in open top oak fermenters with a combination of 3 punch downs or pump overs per day.

Tasting note: A serious wine with all the hallmarks of an extraordinary Cabernet. The nose features alluring nuances of concentrated red and black fruit, tilled earth and cedar wood combined with oak spice, while the palate shows intensity and depth underscored by chalky ripe tannins and a savoury finish. Rich and full bodied yet expertly balanced with superb purity and focus.

Cabernet Sauvignon from this area in 2019 generally offers intense dark fruit, graphite, and herbal notes with strong, fine-grained tannins designed for aging.

Analysis:

Alc: 14.72 %	RS: 3.3 g/li	TA: 6.0 g/l	pH: 3.48	VA: 0.55
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Awards: Platter 5 Star (95 points)