

Kanonkop Kadette Cape Blend 2021

Kanonkop Wine Estate, situated on the lower slopes of the Simonsberg Mountain in Stellenbosch, is a renowned South African estate with a rich history in winemaking. Owned by the same family for four generations, the estate is synonymous with excellence in red wine production. Spanning over 100 hectares, Kanonkop's vineyards focus on Bordeaux varietals, including Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, and the iconic South African Pinotage. Kanonkop Kadette Cape Blend 2021 combines Pinotage, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Merlot for a balanced wine with rich fruit flavors and subtle spice, showcasing Kanonkop's commitment to quality.



General Information

- **Producer:** Kanonkop Wine Estate
- **Appellation:** Stellenbosch, South Africa
- **Varietal Composition:** 39% Pinotage, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot
- **Vintage:** 2021
- **Alcohol Content:** 14.26%
- **Volume:** 750ml



Vineyard and Terroir

- **Location:** Stellenbosch, situated on the lower slopes of the Simonsberg Mountain.
- **Soil Type:** Decomposed granite and Hutton soils, contributing to the wine's complexity and structure.
- **Age of Vines:** 5 to 30 years, offering maturity and depth in the fruit.
- **Yield:** Approximately 7 tons per hectare, ensuring concentrated flavors.
- **Viticulture Practices:** Managed with supplemental irrigation to maintain vine health and optimize grape quality.



Winemaking

- **Harvest:** Grapes are carefully selected and handpicked to ensure quality.
 - **Vinification:** Fermented in open-top concrete fermenters at 28°C with mechanical punch-downs every 2 hours for optimal color and flavor extraction. The juice was separated from the skins after 3-5 days to maintain balance.
 - **Aging:** Matured for 12 months in second and third-fill 225L French Nevers oak barrels, which provides subtle oak influence without overpowering the fruit.
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Tasting Notes

- **Appearance:** Crimson red with bright highlights.
 - **Aroma:** Ripe aromas of raspberries, dark cherries, and black plums, complemented by cinnamon and allspice.
 - **Palate:** Medium-bodied with supple, elegant tannins and fresh acidity. The palate reveals juicy red and black fruit flavors with a hint of chocolate, balanced by a well-integrated structure.
 - **Finish:** Long and smooth, with lingering notes of fruit and a touch of spice.
 - **Aging Potential:** Enjoyable now, but can develop additional complexity over 5 to 7 years from the vintage.
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Food Pairing

- **Recommended Pairings:** Recommended Pairings: Complements a range of dishes including pizza, pasta, barbecued meat, roast chicken, beef or lamb burgers, and beef stew.
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Sustainable Practices and Certifications

- Kanonkop is committed to environmentally conscious practices, focusing on soil health and minimal intervention to enhance grape quality.
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Awards and Recognition

- **Tim Atkin MW** awarded it 91 points, highlighting its quality and craftsmanship.
- **James Suckling** rated it 92 points, praising its balance and complexity.

Producer's Notes

Kanonkop Kadette Cape Blend 2021 reflects the estate's dedication to crafting balanced, expressive wines with vibrant fruit and refined structure, offering a versatile and enjoyable wine for a wide range of occasions.