

Vergelegen DNA 2018

Vergelegen, one of South Africa's most iconic estates, has established itself as a benchmark for quality and elegance. Located in the renowned Stellenbosch wine region, Vergelegen is celebrated for crafting wines of exceptional depth, complexity, and sophistication. The Vergelegen DNA Red 2018, a unique blend of Cabernet Franc and Malbec, exemplifies this tradition, offering a wine with distinctive character and finesse.



General Information

- **Producer:** Vergelegen
- **Appellation:** Stellenbosch, South Africa
- **Varietal Composition:** 87% Cabernet Franc, 13% Malbec
- **Vintage:** 2018
- **Alcohol Content:** 14%
- **Volume:** 750ml



Vineyard and Terroir

- **Location:** Grapes were sourced from Vergelegen's Stonepine, Rooiland, and Rondekop vineyards, planted on the north to north-westerly slopes with rows running east to west.
- **Soil Type:** Pinedene, Hutton, and Clovelly soil forms (all Oxidic group).



Winemaking

- **Harvest:** Grapes were hand-picked, de-stemmed but not crushed, and cooled to 8°C for a 'cold soak' lasting 168 hours.
- **Vinification:** Fermentation took place at 25°C followed by a 42-day maceration on the skins. After malolactic fermentation in stainless steel tanks, the wine was matured in French oak barrels for 16 months.



Tasting Notes

- **Appearance:** Dark in colour, viscous and a carrot-like tint.
- **Aroma:** Expresses typical Cabernet Franc flavors with notes of cassis, violets, and tobacco, rounded off by hints of chocolate and coffee.
- **Palate:** Soft tannin structure with a lingering aftertaste.



Food Pairing

- **Recommended Pairings:** Pairs well with grilled meat or mildly spiced curries.



Sustainable Practices and Certifications

- Vergelegen is a pioneer in sustainability and biodiversity efforts:
- Awarded the Sustainable Wine Tourism Practices prize in the 2024 Best of Wine Tourism Awards, demonstrating its commitment to eco-friendly winemaking.
- The estate was the first South African Biodiversity and Wine Initiative Champion in 2005, with sustainability remaining central to all activities. Vergelegen's significant alien vegetation clearing project culminated in a 1900-hectare reserve, granted the same protection status as the Kruger National Park.
- They actively support Fairtrade, reduce carbon emissions, practice land conservation by keeping over 2,000 hectares free from agricultural activity, and are a participant in the Cape Leopard Trust.



Awards and Recognition

- The Vergelegen DNA has consistently received high praise across multiple vintages, with past accolades including scores such as 94 points from Tim Atkin and 4½ stars from Platter's Guide. These awards highlight the exceptional quality and complexity of the DNA blend.

VERGELEGEN



De Vries Premium Wines

Producer's Notes

The Vergelegen DNA Red 2018 represents the estate's commitment to crafting wines that reflect the unique terroir of Stellenbosch, with a distinctive blend that offers layers of flavor, elegance, and complexity. This wine showcases the essence of Vergelegen's winemaking philosophy, balancing tradition with innovation.