

# Waterford Estate

## Grenache Single Vineyard 2023



**Cultivars**  
100% Grenache

**Type**  
Grenache

**Appellation**  
Helderberg Mountain,  
Stellenbosch,  
South Africa

**Wine Analysis**  
Alc 14%  
TA 4.5 g/L  
RS 1.3 g/L  
pH 3.07

**Maturation**  
Aged 15 months  
in 45% porcelain jars  
and old 500L French  
oak barrels

**Ageing potential**  
3 - 8 years from  
production

### VINTAGE REVIEW

YEAR	2023
Average Rainfall (mm)	635.4
Average Winter Temp. (°C)	14.43
Average Summer Temp. (°C)	19.37

In 2023, rainfall fell below the normal annual average. This drier vintage resulted in wines exhibiting more richness and concentration, attributed to the smaller berries and reduced crop size. Although the heat remained consistent with the previous year's average, the harvest period was condensed due to irregular summer rainfall.

### PHILOSOPHY

At Waterford Estate, we embrace the harmonious collaboration between nature and the delicate balance of artistry and science to create truly authentic fine wines. Our wines embody a profound sense of place, culture, and an unwavering dedication to excellence. With a deep-rooted belief in transcending boundaries, we craft wines that offer a sensory journey, capturing the true essence of the Helderberg Mountain's terroir.

### VINEYARD

The single vineyard is planted on the rockiest sandstone slopes at Waterford Estate. This location is the most arid and warm site on the farm, making it ideal for Grenache.

### VINIFICATION

The grapes are hand-harvested, destemmed but not crushed, and approximately 4% of the bunches are left whole. These whole berries and bunches are then placed in fermentation vessels and allowed to ferment for approximately 18 days. After fermentation, the grapes are pressed, and the wine is transferred to old 500L French oak barrels and porcelain jars for malolactic fermentation and ageing.

### PAIRING SUGGESTIONS

Grenache's versatility is a key factor in its popularity, appealing all palates no matter the season. This wine excels in its ability to pair well with a wide variety of dishes, including roasted meats, fragrant stews, and Asian flavours, showcasing its exceptional complexity and impressive capacity to harmonise with these intricate and rich tastes.

### TASTING NOTES

**Date tasted: May 2025**

A bright ruby hue hints at the vibrant fruit within. The nose is more restrained than the previous vintage, offering a savoury, meaty richness layered with candied red fruit and subtle earthy undertones. On the palate, juicy raspberries and concentrated red fruit take centre stage, supported by textured, earthy tannins. Whole-bunch pressing adds tension and structure, while lifting the body and providing freshness through balanced acidity. A poised and complex wine, with intensity and elegance in equal measure.

### EVOLUTION AFTER 5 YEARS

Grenache is known for showing ageing characteristics at an early stage, with the wine turning a brickish brown colour. The nose will show savoury fruit notes, as the subtle baking spice character starts to take center stage. The palate will soften, with the vibrant acidity integrating further into the wine as the balance continues to shine with the wine's lengthy mineral finish.