

Product code: 1305

IONA, ONE MAN BAND RED, ELGIN, SOUTH AFRICA, 2016



Producer Profile

At 420m above sea-level, set high above the picturesque Elgin Valley Andrew Gunn founded Iona. It is here overlooking the Atlantic ocean that he has secured some of the coolest vineyards in the Cape.

In a country where cool climate vineyards are like gold dust, these vineyards are veritable nuggets. There is an extremely long growing season, allowing Andrew to create wines with complex flavours and a fresh, elegant style. The approach is hands off and the land is farmed according to organic and biodynamic practices with a particular focus on ensuring the health of the soils whilst pests are kept under control by the resident flock of geese that roam the vineyards.

Viticulture

From the 2008 vintage, Iona have decided to produce a red blend that is reflective of the best of the red wines they produce. It is a wine that reflects two very different terroirs: the warm, ripe Syrah from Brocha vineyards lower down in the Elgin Valley, and the cool, fresh Cabernet and Merlot from Iona's vineyards, high up overlooking the Atlantic. The idea behind producing this wine is to produce something that is incomparable and unique to their property.

Winemaking

Hand harvested/de stemmed and hand sorted on a vibrating table. Punch downs to gently extract tannins. Extended maceration following alcoholic fermentation for 7 -14 days. Tasted every day, to assess extraction level + when to press off. Malolactic fermentation in barrel. 12-18 months in French oak (25% new) barrels.

Tasting Note

The wine shows cassis fruit, with exotic spice and red fruit notes. It is layered with fragrant ripe cherry and blackberry notes, with underlying spice cedarwood and white pepper characters. The palate is seamless, with elegant fine grained tannins.

Food Matching

An excellent full bodied red wine to accompany rich, hearty red meat dishes.

Technical Details

Varieties:

Syrah 62%

Cabernet Sauvignon 16%

Others 22%

ABV: 15%

Closure: Natural cork

Colour: Red

Style: Still wine

Case Size: 6 x 75cl

Oak Treatment

Time: 12-18 Months

Type: French

% wine oaked: 100

% new oak: 25