

Product code: 2922

# Raats Family Wines, Red Jasper, Stellenbosch, South Africa, 2020



## Producer Profile

Bruwer Raats is a gentle giant of a man and his reputation is starting to match his stature. His mastery of chenin blanc and cabernet franc is bringing him praise from around the world as "the most exciting and forward thinking winemaker" in Stellenbosch.

As part of the new wave of South African winemakers, Bruwer crafts soil specific wines that embody the unique characteristics of the region. With hand harvesting, whole bunch pressing and using natural fermentation without fining or filtering it helps him create wines that are world class.

## Viticulture

From trellised and bush vines averaging 21 - 28 years old grown on 100% decomposed dolomite granite soils.

## Winemaking

Grapes were hand sorted three times, crushed and left to cold soak on the skins for five days. After fermentation the grapes were basket pressed and allowed to undergo malolactic fermentation in stainless steel tanks. The wine was then aged for 16 months prior to bottling. Fermentation Temperature: 28°C. 16 months in French tight grain oak barrels (20% second, 30% third fill and 50% fourth fill).

## Tasting Note

Exceptionally intense and complex on the nose with blackberry, black cherry and bramble in abundance and subtle hints of forest floor, dark chocolate, aniseed and spicy tobacco. The walk in the Black Forest continues with blue and blackberry dancing on a tight rope with focus and concentration, following through onto a perfectly balanced, fine-grained, velvety palate. The finish lingers with hints of fresh mint, cinnamon and perfume. Complex and structured.

## Food Matching

Venison, aged sirloin and hard cheeses.

## Awards

### Vinous 93 Points

The 2020 Jasper Red Blend is a blend of 44% Cabernet Franc, 25% Malbec, 23% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Petit Verdot and 2% Merlot. This wine has a very focused and pure bouquet that has a real swagger about it, the 6% Petit Verdot imparting a seductive floral/crushed violet element. The palate is medium-bodied with a delineated entry, intense black cherries and subtle cassis notes, an underlying spiciness that blossoms on the finish that has real concentration and persistence. This is a very impressive Jasper that probably deserves a couple of years in bottle if you can resist temptation. 93 Points, NM, August 2022.

### Tim Atkin South Africa Report 2022 93 Points

Jasper uses Bruwer Raats' signature red grape, Cabernet Franc, as its foundation, combining it with 56% Malbec, Cabernet Sauvignon, Petit Verdot and Merlot. Lightly wooded in older barrels, it's smooth, leafy and sappy, with lovely texture and plum, cassis and red cherry fruit. 2023-29. 93 Points, TA, 2022.

## Technical Details

### Varieties:

Cabernet Franc 44%  
Malbec 25%  
Others 31%

ABV: 14.5%

Closure: Technical cork

Colour: Red

Style: Still wine

Case Size: 6 x 75cl

### Oak Ageing

Time: 16 months

Type: French

% wine oaked: 100

% new oak: None