

SOUTHERN RIGHT, HEMEL-EN-AARDE,
SOUTH AFRICA

MENTZENDORFF
wine shippers since
1858

PINOTAGE



DETAILS OF PRODUCTION

Southern Right is a small Pinotage and Sauvignon Blanc specialist located on a strikingly beautiful 448 ha property in the cool, maritime, Hemel-en-Aarde Valley appellation. The wines are named after the rare Southern Right whales, which frequent the cool South Atlantic Walker Bay, 3 kilometres from the vineyards. An intense, classically styled, clay-grown wine, going through 100% malolactic fermentation, and barrel ageing of 9 months in 1st (8%), 2nd (8%), 3rd (16%) and 4th (68%) fill 400 litre French oak barrels. Harvest was a touch earlier than usual, beginning in the first week of February. Budding was even and complete, helped by a fortuitous two days over 30 Centigrade in mid-September. Overall, the year was wetter than the previous few years. Overall, the 2020 vintage was cooler than 2019 and equal to the celebrated 2009 and 2015 vintages. Pinotage yields were significantly down on the already low yields of 2019. A standout feature of the 2020 vintage was phenolic ripeness at lower alcohol than usual, combined with low sugar to alcohol conversions for the fermentations. A highly positive situation. Despite lower alcohol, the Pinotage is deep, and intense, with a beautiful fine-grained structure.

TASTING NOTES

Southern Right is re-defining Pinotage with this intense classically styled, clay-grown wine, packed with complex berry fruit, beautiful tannins, and subtle spice. Full ripeness and the longer hang-time afforded by cooler sites, combined with the complex, more classic fruit aromas and structure resulting from clay-rich soil, make this wine a highly individual expression of South Africa's unique grape variety.

HOW TO SERVE

Drink with smoked duck and pulled pork dishes. This Pinotage will stand up to spiciness and smokey flavours along with classic South African cuisine such as Braai (South African Barbeque).

“Emul Ross may be better known for his Pinots but he has a sensitive touch with Pinotage too. This concentrated, textured example has violet and vanilla spice aromas, bramble and blueberry flavours and appealing texture.” 93 points

TIM ATKINS MW, SOUTH AFRICA REPORT 2021
SOUTHERN RIGHT PINOTAGE 2020

VINTAGE 2020
STYLE Red
BLEND OF GRAPES 100% Pinotage
ALCOHOL 13.11%
RESIDUAL SUGAR 1.90g/l

