



G. 2016

LE CAPITAIN

The last vintage under the helm of legendary winemaker Denis Dubourdieu in his quest to create the 'First Growth of the Cape'. Uncompromised quality is the *Leitmotiv* for this wine that is determined to set new standards – with a strict limitation of 4488 bottles.

First Growth of the Cape

The Season One of the most difficult vintages in a long time, similar to 2003 in Bordeaux. The Super-El-Niño triggered an extremely dry, shortened season with small berries and an early ripening. Professionalism and attentiveness was of utmost importance to yield exceptional quality. **Varietals** A blend of Syrah, Petit Verdot, and Cabernet Sauvignon; selected from eight different vineyards across the Western Cape. **Harvest** Extreme care and thorough selection. Grapes are hand-picked in small batches, carefully hand destemmed and meticulously sorted twice prior to gentle manual crushing. **Vinification** Alcoholic fermentation in both French oak barrels and stainless steel tanks, with strict temperature control and regular breaking of the cap for optimal extraction. **Maturation** 18 months in partially new French oak barrels from six different cooperages.

Tasting Notes The immensely dense and deep bouquet of cassis, sloe liqueur and warm tan opens up from minute to minute like a magnificent peacock fan and is enriched with spicy hints of laurel and lovage, freshly roasted black pepper, very discreetly smoky eucalyptus, and a subtle fleshy appeal. On the palate fascinatingly almost floating and with great balance despite its immense concentration. The impressive fruit body gains additional complexity by smoky-mineral graphite notes, noble plant character and hints of plum jam, dark cocoa and tobacco. Extremely juicy, yet not overloaded, as it is interwoven with filigree veins of acid and supported by wonderfully sweet tannins. Refreshing finish with lots of spice and mineral cedar notes that enrich the long-lasting fruit of dark forest berry compote.

*Recommended Glass: Zalto Denk'Art Bordeaux • Riedel Sommeliers Bordeaux Grand Cru
Plateau of Maturity: Now until 2050 or longer • Extensive decanting recommended*