# Sadie Family

Sadie Family Columella 2020 is the 21st bottling of this iconic wine, blending Syrah, Mourvèdre, Grenache, Carignan, Cinsaut, and Tinta Barocca from South Africa's Swartland region. A pinnacle of Sadie Family's craftsmanship, it delivers profound complexity, elegance, and remarkable aging potential.

## SADIE FAMILY WINES PTY LTD



Alcohol :14,50 % Composition: 75% Syrah, 23% Mourvèdre, 2% Grenache

## Columella 2020

Swartland, South Africa

### Region and Vineyards

The **Columella 2020** is sourced from **10 distinct vineyards** across the Swartland, including sites in **Paardeberg**, **Kasteelberg**, **Malmesbury**, and **Piquetberg**. These sites are characterized by diverse soils, including **granite**, **slate**, **gravel**, and **sandstone formations**, which impart layers of minerality and complexity to the wine.

The vines are cultivated on slopes and hillsides, benefiting from the region's **Mediterranean climate**, with warm, dry days and cooling breezes. Low-yielding vines, at an average of **28 hl/ha**, produce fruit of exceptional intensity, ensuring a wine that is both concentrated and expressive.

### Winemaking

The **2020 vintage** underwent meticulous hand-sorting of individual berries to ensure only the best fruit was used. Fermentation was carried out **spontaneously** in **3,300-liter open concrete fermenters**, lasting approximately three weeks at **24 °C**. This was followed by a **three-week post-fermentation maceration**, enhancing the wine's structure and depth. No additives were used during fermentation, preserving the natural integrity of the grapes.

After fermentation, the wine was gently pressed in a **traditional basket press** and transferred to **French oak barrels** (only **5% new**) for **malolactic fermentation** and aging on lees for **12 months**. Subsequently, it was racked into large **oval casks** (foudres) for an additional **12 months** of maturation. The wine was bottled **unfined and unfiltered**, completing a **24-month aging process** that emphasizes purity and refinement.





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### **Tasting Notes**

- **Color**: Deep ruby red with youthful vibrancy.
- **Aroma**: Intense and lifted aromas of **bright red fruits** like raspberry and cherry, evolving into darker notes of **blueberry** and subtle spice.
- **Palate**: The wine offers a seamless integration of fine tannins and bright acidity, with flavors of crushed red fruit, mineral undertones, and a long, powder-dry finish. The acidity, driven by the **Carignan** and **Mourvèdre**, weaves through the wine like a tightrope, ensuring precision and balance.

### Did You Know?

**Columella** is named after **Lucius Junius Moderatus Columella**, a Roman agriculturalist whose work emphasized harmony with the land, reflecting the Sadie Family's dedication to terroir-driven winemaking. Each vintage of Columella is a testament to the Swartland's evolving viticultural landscape, with the blend adapting annually to reflect the unique expression of the vineyards.

#### Wine Pairing Ideas

- Braised Short Ribs with Rosemary and Garlic: Matches the wine's depth and tannic structure.
- Duck Breast with Plum Sauce: Enhances the vibrant red and dark fruit flavors.
- Wild Mushroom Risotto: Highlights the wine's earthy undertones and seamless texture.
- **Aged Manchego Cheese**: Complements the wine's minerality and refined tannins.

#### Robert Parker (RP): 98 Points (2020)

From the first sniff, the 2020 Columella is an instant champion that is pointing and swinging for the fence. With its fresh frame of fruit and expertly layered oaky essences, the wine is incredibly complex as it bursts from the glass with precision and finesse. Medium-bodied and with 13.5% alcohol, the Columella somersaults into a phantasmagoria of bright crunchy red fruit flavors and seductive floral essences that makes my head spin. Collectors will take note and add a couple of bottles of this to their cellar. It's an absolutely stellar bottling that will age gracefully for decades.

#### James Suckling (JS): 97 Points (2020)

Complex and deep aromas of blueberries, crushed plums, blackberries, cloves and black pepper. Mediumto full-bodied with juicy, fruit-soaked tannins. Finely texture with wonderful depth and intensity. Succulent and vibrant on the palate with great length and ever evolving savory complexity. Terrific. A bit tense right now but will relax with time. Best after 2025.





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#### Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 95 Points (2020)

The 2020 Columella is matured for 12 months in regular barriques with 10% new oak and 12 months in foudres. Dark berry fruit, black tea and light tobacco scents, this is finely tuned and focused, just pure class. You cannot ignore the pedigree here. The palate is beautifully balanced with pliant tannins, very sensual and silky smooth in texture, hints of white pepper and thyme developing in the glass. Dry and very focused on the finish. This constitutes one of the finest Columella's that I have tasted. (NM)





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