

# Hartenberg

A bold yet elegant South African Shiraz that captures the essence of Stellenbosch terroir with spicy depth and layered complexity.

## Shiraz 2021

Stellenbosch, South Africa




### Region and Vineyards

Situated in the Bottelary Hills of **Stellenbosch**, Hartenberg Estate benefits from some of the most advantageous viticultural conditions in **South Africa**. The region enjoys a **Mediterranean climate** with warm, dry summers and cool, wet winters, moderated by breezes from the Atlantic Ocean. These cooling effects ensure a long ripening period, ideal for retaining acidity and aromatic complexity in Shiraz grapes.

Hartenberg's Shiraz vineyards are planted predominantly on deep, red, decomposed granite soils, which are well-draining and low in fertility—perfect for reducing vigour and intensifying berry concentration. The estate has been cultivating Shiraz since the **1970s** and is celebrated as one of the pioneering forces behind the variety's reputation in the country. Low yields and meticulous canopy management further ensure fruit quality and phenolic ripeness.

### Winemaking

The 2017 vintage of Hartenberg Shiraz is vinified with precision and a nod to traditional craftsmanship. Fermentation is temperature-controlled to preserve primary fruit aromas while allowing for adequate extraction of tannin and colour. Post-fermentation maceration enhances structure and depth.

Aged for **21 months** in **French oak barrels** (30% new, 40% second-fill, balance third-fill), the oak regimen contributes finely integrated spice, subtle vanilla, and structure without overpowering the fruit. The final composition includes **14.0% alcohol**, **2.1 g/L residual sugar**, **5.9 g/L total acidity**, and a **pH of 3.42**—balanced and built to age gracefully.

Alcohol :14,00 %

Composition: 100% Syrah

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## Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep ruby core with a garnet rim, indicating both concentration and evolution.
- **Aroma:** Layers of black fruits—blackberry, plum, and cassis—intertwine with sweet spices such as clove and cinnamon. With air, the bouquet evolves to reveal savoury nuances reminiscent of cured meat and umami.
- **Palate:** Full-bodied and structured, showcasing dark berry compote and savoury biltong flavours. The tannins are fine-grained yet assertive, leading to a persistent, spicy finish.

## Did you know?

Hartenberg is one of **South Africa's oldest family-owned producers of Shiraz**, with a legacy spanning over five decades. The estate was also one of the first to bottle a single-vineyard Shiraz under its celebrated **Gravel Hill** label, helping to define the country's modern identity for this noble grape.

## Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Karoo lamb chops:** The gamey richness of lamb harmonizes beautifully with the wine's dark fruit and savoury spice.
- **Beef burger with grilled cheddar:** A bold pairing where umami and fat are mirrored by the wine's tannins and structure.
- **Mushroom risotto:** Earthy, creamy notes of the risotto are elevated by the Shiraz's biltong and spice undertones.
- **Braised beef short ribs:** The wine's grip and spice stand up to the dish's richness and depth.




**Robert Parker (RP) : 93 Points (2019)**

*Brooding in the glass with a juicy and ripe core of dark blackberry fruit aromas, the 2019 Shiraz hints at succulent blueberry skins with classic notes of red and black peppercorns compounded by oak spices. Full-bodied, the wine somersaults across the mid-palate with a balanced structure leaving behind flavors of dusty dark chocolate and blackberry essence. It ends with a firm tannic edge and will remain food-friendly through the end of this decade. The wine rested for 19 months in 30% new French oak barrels. Just under 22,000 bottles were produced. Give it a try.*




**Robert Parker (RP) : 87 Points (2016)**

*A softer style with red fruits, the 2016 Shiraz has aromas of dark cherry, cinnamon and black raspberry with subtle black spices in the glass. Medium to full-bodied, the core of the expression is delineated, but the wine ends a little flat with a quick finish. There is a soft oaky flavor that builds in the aftertaste and makes this wine a touch more appealing.*

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