



Mullineux

A hallmark expression of Mullineux's artisanal approach, uniting whole-cluster fermentation, native yeasts, and a nuanced maturation for a seamless, age-worthy red.



Syrah 2022

Swartland, South Africa

Region and Vineyards

Swartland, a cornerstone of South Africa's fine wine evolution, lies just north of Cape Town and thrives under a Mediterranean climate defined by dry summers and cooling Atlantic breezes. With a focus on minimal irrigation and bush vine cultivation, the region's old vines yield intensely flavoured grapes from soils that range from decomposed granite to schist and iron-rich clay.

The 2022 Mullineux Syrah is sourced from a patchwork of sustainably farmed vineyards. The quartz-rich Kasteelberg parcel contributes aromatic lift and precision, while stony **schist soils on its mid-slopes** bring density and drive. The decomposed granite vineyards of the Paardeberg offer freshness and refined tannins, while a small site north of Malmesbury on **iron-rich clay** adds weight and structure. Together, these parcels provide the wine with a core of complexity and terroir transparency, true to the signature Mullineux style.

Winemaking

The 2022 vintage was harvested between 15 February and 1 March, at low yields of 3 to 5 tons per hectare (30 hL/ha), allowing for concentration and phenolic ripeness. Grapes were picked by hand in the early morning to preserve aromatic integrity. The fruit was crushed with **80% whole clusters**, a technique that heightens aromatic lift and structural tension, and fermented with indigenous yeasts.

Extraction was managed gently over a four-week fermentation, balancing freshness and power. Once optimal tannin integration was achieved, the wine was pressed into **500L French oak barrels** (used), where it matured for 11 months. Following a gentle racking after spring, the wine was blended and returned to barrel for an additional ten months. It was bottled unfiltered and unfiltered in January 2024, preserving its purity and natural complexity.

Alcohol :13,50 %

Composition: 100% Syrah



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Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep ruby with purple reflections.
- **Aroma:** Plush blackberry, violets, cured black olive, and a touch of black pepper and smoked herbs.
- **Palate:** Velvety tannins wrap around dark red fruit, citrus rind, and baking spices. A core of freshness from the quartz terroir is layered with mineral grip from schist and iron soils, finishing long and savoury.

Did you know?

Mullineux's Syrah is crafted with minimal intervention, allowing the diversity of Swartland's ancient soils to define the wine's structure and aromatics. The inclusion of the **quartz-based vineyard in Kasteelberg** since recent vintages has notably elevated the wine's tension and aromatic finesse—giving an extra lift to an already celebrated red.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Chargrilled lamb with rosemary and garlic** – Complements the wine's herbal and spice notes.
- **Duck breast with cherry reduction** – Accentuates the Syrah's dark fruit and velvety texture.
- **Venison stew with juniper berries** – Mirrors the wine's earthy and gamey character.
- **Aged gouda or Tomme de Savoie** – Enhances the wine's savoury complexity and long finish.



Robert Parker (RP) : 92 Points (2021)

Dark-fruited and stemmy on the nose, the 2021 Syrah displays meaty and savory notes with dark cherry and black raspberry before aromas of potpourri with pink peppercorn sway from the glass. Medium to full-bodied, this Syrah is fresh and precise and offers seductive flavors of sausage and cranberry compote before dusty flowers and fine-grained tannins appear over the food-friendly finish. Enjoy with food.



Wine Spectator (WS) : 92 Points (2020)

A fresh, polished red, dark and enticing, with a pretty waft of violet on the nose, a deep, savory base note of iron and mineral, plus a lovely range of blackberry paste, black cherry reduction, herbes de Provence and milled pepper and spice accents. The finish is firmed by supple, fine-grained tannins. Drink now through 2030.



James Suckling (JS) : 92 Points (2020)

Inviting aromas of plums, black cherries, blueberries and black pepper. Medium-bodied with slightly tight tannins. Juicy and expressive with good tension. Will open up even more with time, but already very tasty.

