

Boekenhoutskloof

With its claret-like refinement and meticulous winemaking, Boekenhoutskloof Stellenbosch Cabernet Sauvignon 2021 showcases the finesse and power of South African Cabernet Sauvignon.



Stellenbosch Cabernet Sauvignon 2021

Stellenbosch, South Africa

Region and Vineyards

This wine is sourced from two key Stellenbosch vineyard parcels: the northwest-facing slopes of the Helderberg Mountain and the southeast-facing slope of Vlottenburg.

- The vines thrive in a combination of **decomposed granite soils**, **Table** Mountain sandstone, and koffieklip, contributing to the wine's hallmark minerality and layered complexity.
- The maritime influence of **False Bay** moderates the climate, ensuring cool, steady ripening. The 2021 growing season featured a cool, damp winter, followed by moderate, dry conditions during flowering and ripening, resulting in small berries with concentrated flavors and balanced acidity.

Winemaking

The 2021 vintage was vinified entirely at the Boekenhoutskloof winery, focusing on gentle extraction to achieve a refined claret-like structure. Grapes were hand-harvested, cooled, and carefully destemmed before a cold maceration period in tulip-shaped concrete tanks.

Fermentation occurred spontaneously at temperatures between 27°C and 30°C, with pump-overs and occasional délestage to extract color, tannins, and aromas. Following fermentation, a prolonged malolactic fermentation took place in 225-liter French oak barriques. The wine was then aged for 22 months in 60% new French oak barrels from renowned coopers Sylvain and Saury, enhancing its texture and complexity.





Alcohol: 14,80 %

Composition: 100% Cabernet

Sauvignon







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Tasting Notes

- **Aroma**: Intense and concentrated, with aromas of **plum**, **violet**, and sleek spiciness, complemented by subtle notes of **anise** and **earthiness**.
- Palate: The midpalate is pure and vibrant, offering flavors of blackberries, blueberries, and dark licorice, with peppery undertones. Full-bodied and complex, the wine displays plush tannins and a vibrant acidity.
- **Finish**: Sweet tobacco and black cardamom linger on a long, charred finish, accented by nuances of **iron fer** and **tar**.

Did you know?

The **Helderberg Mountain** region, often referred to as the "Golden Triangle" of Stellenbosch, is famous for producing some of South Africa's most refined and structured Cabernet Sauvignons. The meticulous use of the **OXOline system** for barrel aging at Boekenhoutskloof minimizes handling, preserving the wine's purity and complexity.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Grilled ribeye steak with chimichurri**: The wine's robust tannins and vibrant acidity complement the rich flavors of the steak and the herbal brightness of the chimichurri.
- Lamb shank with rosemary and garlic: The earthy notes and plush texture pair beautifully with the tender, slow-cooked lamb.
- **Beef bourguignon**: The wine's dark fruit and spice profile enhance the savory depth of this classic dish.
- **Aged cheddar or smoked Gouda**: The wine's complexity and charred finish harmonize with the sharp, smoky flavors of these cheeses.



Tim Atkin (TA): 95 Points (2021)

Gottfried Mocke sources this Stellenbosch Cabernet Sauvignon from two growers - one on the Helderberg, the other in Stellenbosch Kloof - to produce what is always the denser than its companion Franschhoek bottling. Inky and grippy, with top notes of menthol, mocha and dried herbs, lots of energy and vibrancy and a core of plum, blueberry and cassis.2025-35



Decanter (DCT): 93 Points (2021)

Compared to the Franschhoek cuvée, the Stellenbosch bottling is almost reassuringly ripe and flattering with crème de mure, cassis and black cherry fruit on a plush, pencilly palate with integrated, creamy, spicy oak. It certainly shows more immediate richness and generosity than its cellarmate. Juicy and plush with a sense of depth and ripeness counterbalanced by attractively chewy, pliant tannins. The wine is made with spontaneous fermentation and aged for 22 months in 60% new oak, lightly toasted and long-seasoned.







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James Suckling (JS): 93 Points (2021)



#93 TOP 100 WINES OF SOUTH AFRICA - Pretty nose of blackcurrants, sage, blackberry leaves and nutmeg. Firm and well-framed, with a full body and solid tannin structure. Excellent freshness, too. Drink or hold.



