

CYRIL BACK SHIRAZ 2013

LIMITED RELEASE

Established in 1693, Fairview cellar is nestled on the south western slopes of Paarl Mountain, just 40 minutes from Cape Town. I am the third generation of my family to make wine here. Our pursuit of excellence and originality has led to the discovery of many unique vineyard sites and we have introduced new grape varieties to the ancient coastal soils of the Cape. It was a privilege to produce this wine for you.

This wine was made to honour my late father, Cyril Back, who introduced handcrafted winemaking at Fairview.



Wine of Origin	Coastal Region
Alcohol	14.0%
Residual sugar	2.7 g/l
Total acid	5.4 g/l
рН	3.61
Varieties	100% Shiraz
Closure	Natural Cork

IN THE VINEYARD:

The fruit for the Cyril Back 2013 was sourced from two dry farmed vineyards, one in Agter-Paarl and the other in the Swartland region. The vineyard in Paarl is trellised and the Swartland is pruned to a "bosstok" or bush vine. The vineyards are regularly visited during the ripening period and tested by tasting, visual and analytical examination to determine the ideal picking date.

HARVEST DATE: 7 February and 4 March 2013

WINEMAKING:

All the fruit was hand-picked at 24.5 degrees balling. The bunches were destalked and berry selections carefully carried out over sorting tables. The grapes were fermented in open oak fermenters (foudres), with fermentation allowed to start naturally. Manual punch downs (Pigeage) done twice a day. The skins were gently basket pressed and the wine was sent to French oak barrels for malolactic fermentation. Once completed, the wine was racked and returned to 100% new French oak barrels for a total of 26 months maturation. The Cyril Back 2013 was blended and bottled on 10 June 2015, unfined, with a very light filtration. Only 7 barrels were produced of this vintage.

WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS:

Cyril Back is a selection of the best barrels from the vintage. As the aging in barrels continues throughout the year, the winemaking team regularly tastes through the different barrel lots and special barrels are marked and put to one side. After 26 months the marked barrels are then tasted again and only the 7 best barrels are selected for the final wine. Although Cyril Back is allowed to be any grape variety, this 2013 selection is again a 100% Shiraz. The wine has the fruit intensity and tannin structure to age beautifully in bottle. Although the wine is already showing well, I feel it will be at its best from 2017. -Anthony de Jager-

TASTING NOTE:

Intense dark garnet colour with blueberry, plum, anise and nutmeg on the nose. This elegant red brims with pepper and spice flavours and finishes with fine age worthy tannins. Aging potential 7 to 10 year in bottle

RECOGNITION (PREVIOUS VINTAGES)

2013: NWC/Top 100 South African Wine Awards 2016 2010: 91 points - Tim Atkins SA Report Publication 2014

2007: Gold - Decanter World Wine Awards 2010

2006: 91 points - Wine Spectator

2006: Gold – Decanter World Wine Awards 2009

2005: 91 points - Wine Spectator

2005: Silver – International Wine Challenge 2007