



FOUNDED 1693

**FAIRVIEW**

In keeping with his innovative repertoire, Charles Back introduced the Petite Sirah mother block to South African soils in 2004. Indulge in a deep red, full bodied wine offering intense plum characters, a robust palate with juicy tannins and an elegant finish with hints of lingering pepper. A beautiful choice for an unusual wine that is ready to drink now or age for later indulgence.

 Charles Back


## Fairview Petite Sirah 2017

### THE VARIETY:

Petite Sirah [pe-teet-si-rah] (also known as Durif) is a natural crossing of Syrah and Peloursin, discovered by François Durif in the south of France in 1880. Its intense colour and good tannin structure make it an excellent wine for ageing. Today the variety is mostly grown in California and Australia. Petite Sirah was introduced to South Africa by Fairview owner, Charles Back after he tasted it abroad. It thrives in our warm climate – both in Paarl and in the Swartland.

### IN THE VINEYARD:

Grapes are sourced from a trellised vineyard on the upper slopes of the Fairview farm on Paarl mountain. The vineyard was planted in 2004 on decomposed granite soils. Summer canopy management practices include removal of leaves to open the canopy to sunlight and a few tipping actions. The yield is controlled by dropping bunches post *veraison*.

### WINEMAKING:

The grapes were handpicked on the The fruit was hand sorted over a sorting table and fermentation took place in a *foudre* (open-top French oak vat), after which the skins were gently basket pressed. The wine was matured in 15% American oak barrels and 85% French oak barrels, of which 40% were new French oak barrels. The wine was allowed to mature for 24 months in barrels before being racked, lightly filtered and bottled.

### WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS:

"Petite Sirah naturally produces wines that are dark, bold and full-bodied. With a few years of cellaring, the wine develops beautifully in bottle and is ultimately a fantastic wine with hearty meat dishes, like lamb shank or pork belly." - *Anthony de Jager*

### TASTING NOTE:

Inky dark red colour, with liquorish aromas, warm spices and ripe plums. The palate is full, with generous robust age worthy tannins and flavours of cinnamon, dates and spice.

### RECOGNITION:

**2013:** Top 100 status/Double Platinum awards - NWC/Top 100 South African Wine Award 2016

**2013:** 4.5 Stars - Platter's South African Wine Guide 2016

**2013:** 89 Points – Wine Spectator 2015

**2012:** Top 100 SA Wines 2015

**2011:** 92 points – Tim Atkins SA Report Publication 2014

**2011:** 91 points - John Szabo, MS - Canadian writer for Wine Align

**2011:** Top 100 SA Wines 2014

**2010:** 91 points – Tim Atkins SA Report Publication

Wine of Origin	Paarl
Alcohol	13.5%
Residual sugar	3.2 g/l
Total acid	5.2g/l
pH	3.51
Varieties	
Petite Sirah	100%
Closure	Natural Cork