



Touch
WARWICK

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Touch Warwick Cabernet Sauvignon

Our 2014 tasting notes

To the members of the Touch Warwick 'Inner Circle',

We are honoured that you have chosen to be one of the first ever owners of a bottle of Touch Warwick Cabernet Sauvignon 2014. This is our maiden vintage and we are pleased to share how much expertise, passion and care we've put into producing it.

Touch Warwick Cabernet Sauvignon is blended predominantly from a 17-year-old vineyard, perched high on the slopes of Warwick which has always been known, somewhat simply, as Block 9. The power that this vineyard is able to produce is something of a phenomenon. Perhaps it is the Oakleaf soils; beautifully red and yellow in colour, well drained and made from decomposed granite, that is the answer? Perhaps it is that nature has favoured this little square of land to produce a natural balance of freshness, energy and power in the grapes? The unique traits that this vineyard consistently produces are the necessary building blocks of a wine with stature, elegance and longevity. We decided to take this little piece of natural excellence and using our skills and passion, transform it into something even more spectacular.

For the 2014 vintage, there was a 2-3 week lag on previous seasons allowing the grapes to mature and ripen even more slowly and evenly with finesse and elegance. This block of Cabernet is always the last to be harvested on the Estate, and was harvested, by hand, in the week after Easter 2014. Touch & Mike were both there to hand-harvest the fruit, in the cool, early morning and select the best rows and vines to find the upper levels of quality to produce the highest level of satisfaction. By tasting the grapes, Touch was able to find the ripest and best areas of each vineyard and each row, even down to the best vines.

The greatest wines of the world are made only from the best hand-selected grapes; but further quality measures were put in place in the winery to ensure true character. Each berry was removed from its stalk and placed onto a sorting table where a group of professional sorters ensured that only the most perfect grapes were included in our wine. Not one grape that was below par made it into the juice. The juice was fermented according to the centuries old traditional French method, in open-topped tanks until it turned into the elixir it is meant to be. The wine was then transferred into 225 litre barrels to continue its long journey towards greatness. High quality imported tight-grained French oak barrels were selected and the wine was allowed to rest and mature for 22 months – encompassing two long and peaceful winters.

The naturally dark colour derived from the vineyard is deep and alluring with shades of violet and blackberry. The nose, which has an inviting subtlety has rum and maple, vanilla soufflé and dried fig notes which are carried through to black pepper, bramble berry, marjoram and thyme.

The palate is defined by a sophisticated savoury note with vibrant freshness, which is interwoven with a fleshy and dense mid-palate of classic Cabernet Sauvignon, with a chalky linear effect. The finish is decidedly juicy with fine-grained tannins that leave you with the distinct impression of individuality and help you to understand the enigmatic personality of this wine. Although this wine is ready to be enjoyed now, further aging will show its pedigree and its immortality. We recommend patience, as greatness should never be rushed.

We hope you enjoy drinking this wine as much as we enjoyed ourselves making it. Thank you for your confidence in our joint passion project.

Sincerely,

Mike Ratcliffe
Co-owner

TBo 'Touch' Molefe
Co-owner