



An exciting new vineyard between the tiny hamlet of Malagas and Cape Infanta, at the mouth of the Breede River – called **Sijnn** by the original Khoisan inhabitants. Perched on a plateau of **slate** and **rolled stones**, about 15km from the southern oceans of Africa. The wines are currently made by the **De Trafford** team in Stellenbosch. A winery is planned for the property – still on David Trafford's drawing board!

SIJNN SAIGNEE 2011

VINEYARD

The complex stony soils, together with a warm dry climate (350mm) moderated by constant sea breezes provides an ideal terroir to produce something unique. Most of the soils have about 600mm round pudding stones on the surface with weathered shale or slate in the subsoil. All vines are grown as bush vines due to the exceptional low yield and vigour, from the 6 year old vines.

MOURVEDRE 43%; TRINCADEIRA 29%; SHIRAZ 28%

Yield: 3.4 ton/ha (20hl/ha)

VINTAGE CONDITIONS

A good growing season with few problems. Harvest was quite early with cool conditions. Some mist and light rain during harvest which is reasonably typical, but in 2011 caused no problems. Our best vintage yet.

PRODUCTION

Handpicked and carefully sorted in **14 kg flat trays** in the cool mornings, to avoid any damaging and transported back to Stellenbosch. Further sorting in Stellenbosch and 98% destemming and gentle crushing directly into small open top tanks, including some 700ℓ wooden vats. Drained off the skins a day or two later at about the time spontaneous natural fermentation starts. Fermentation and further maturation in 225ℓ oak barrels for 9 months. Lightly fined with bentonite (natural clay) and bottled by hand unfiltered.

Bottling date: 16/11/11

Production: 155 x 12 x 750ml

TASTING NOTES

Pale red onion skin. (More of a light Pinot than a Rosè) Complex rose petal & red fruit nose. Full, silky light red wine like texture on the palate. Flavours of red berries and Macadamia nuts on the palate.

Excellent with delicate curries and other spicy food as well as with red meat on a hot day – if you don't feel like a heavy red wine.

ANALYSIS

Alc 13.55% SG 1.6g/ℓ TA 4.2g/ℓ pH 3.59 VA 0.46g/ℓ SO₂ Free 19 mg/ℓ & Total 79 mg/ℓ

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