Le Riche

STELLENBOSCH | SOUTH AFRICA

HARVEST REPORT 2020

After a late autumn, our winter rains arrived with consistent cold weather and average rainfall. This cold weather broke the bud dormancy effectively, and combined with a dry August with good sunlight, we had even budding on our vines.

After a moderate spring, we had significant rain and storms during the Cabernet flowering season. This led to a smaller harvest with loose bunches. Thereafter the days remained cool and windy well into December, ensuring smaller berries with good tannin and colour.

Veraison was even, with a few rain showers through the summer. This helped to maintain vineyard health until late in the season. The summer remained moderate and windy, and our harvest started early with the first Cabs arriving on the 14th of February. From there ripening sped up quickly and the cellar received the last grapes from the Helderberg slopes on the 13th of March after a very intense early March.

In general the wines have great colour, with fine tannins providing backbone to lovely ripe and elegant fruit.

Christo le Riche
Cellarmaster