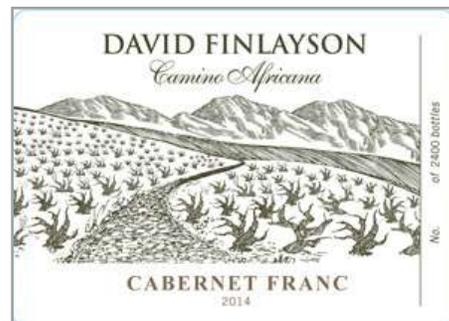




David Finlayson

Camino Africana Cabernet Franc 2014

Winemaker: David Finlayson
Appellation: Stellenbosch - Helderberg
Varietal: Cabernet Franc
Bottles Produced: 600
Yields Per Acre: 5 tonnes
Filtration and fining: Minimal filtration and no fining
Wood treatment: 300 litre Allier Hogshead barrels
Length of barrel maturation: 18 Months



UPC#:858441006545

Alcohol: 15%
Total Acid: 6.1 g/l
Free/Total Sulfur: 30/90 mg/l
pH: 3.52
Residual Sugar: 2.9

Viticultural Practices: The 5 tons Cab Franc grapes were carefully sorted and crushed whole berry into a 5 ton fermenter. After 3 days cold soak and allowing spontaneous fermentation to take place, pumpovers occurred 3 times per day for 14 days. 10 days post ferment maceration was followed by a soft press and further 18 months maturation in New 300 litre Allier Hogshead barrels. Bottled with minimal filtration and no fining to maintain the wines fine structure.

Winemaker Notes: This wine is made from Cabernet Franc planted on an old seabed in the Helderberg Basin. The soils reminded me very much of the Graves region in Bordeaux, allowing me to spot the potential to make a great wine from these vineyards that are threatened by Urban encroachment. In my search for special and undiscovered sites and wines, I am proud to have found these grapes and have followed their path into this fantastic example of what potential there truly exists for Cabernet Franc in the Helderberg area of Stellenbosch when the right variety is fitted into the perfect site and terroir. A wine for maturation and enjoyment when the time is truly ripe for the reward. This wine signifies something truly special to me as a winemaker and is part of my journey in life and wine in South Africa, hence the name, Camino Africana, "The African Way."

Score(s): 92 pts Vinous/Tanzer - (15% alcohol; aged in 60% new and 40% second-fill French oak): Bright red-ruby. Pungent peppery, herbal lift to the aromas of cassis, graphite and bitter chocolate oak. Plush, broad and fine-grained, with sweet dark berry fruit flavors complicated by dark chocolate and tobacco leaf flavors. Old-style wine in its herbacity and earthy character but with terrific subtle sweetness, creaminess and density to its seamless dark berry flavors. Fine-grained, dusty, broad tannins are fully supported by material. Very long and savory on the end. Built to age.

4 1/2 Stars - John Platter