



# LEOPARD FROG vineyards

Couture Cape Wines from Stellenbosch, South Africa



## MIDNIGHT MAASAI

### Proprietor's Private Release (Artist Series)

Midnight Maasai is a once-off Stellenbosch Shiraz featuring a provocative painting by renowned South African artist Velaphi Mzimba. Midnight Maasai was handcrafted from grapes hand-picked from a specific block of vines on the slopes of the Helderberg Mountains that were hand-sorted, hand-selected and patiently aged for an unprecedented 60 months in French oak to create a couture Cape wine with a noble personality worthy of its namesake.

### Winemaker's Notes

Vintage	2002 (once-off)
Varietal	Shiraz
Wine of Origin	Stellenbosch
Winemaker	David John Bate
Production	5 Barrels
Bottle Size	750 ml
Yield	3 t/ha
°Balling/Harvest	23 û
Alcohol	13.5 %/vol
Residual Sugar	2.1 g/l
TA	5.3 g/l
VA	0.8 g/l
FSO <sub>2</sub>	31 mg/l
pH	3.5
Oak	60 months French (Nevers) New wood Medium plus toast
Maturation	Barrel matured with MLF (la malo) in barrels
UPC	6009812400187 (individual bottles)
SCC	06009812400194 (cases of 6 bottles)

### Tasting Notes

#### Appearance

As Maasai warriors clad their bodies in red cloth and cover their hair with red clay to convey their stature and power, the rich red hues and black flesh tones of this offering foreshadow the strong yet subtle personality of this complex and full bodied wine.

#### Nose

Satisfying sensations of black liquorice, black currants and dark chocolate yield to top notes of roasted peppers and rosemary with subtle undertones of cocoa and coffee bean. Whispers of cedar wood and long leaf Cameroon tobacco allude to the oak-influenced personality of this multi-faceted wine.

#### Taste

Smooth tannins, supple textures and subdued acidity introduce a fruitful mouth filling palate. Early layers of wild blackberries, lush black currants and burnt orchard cherries yield to mid-palate nuances of vanilla, liquorice and roasted black peppercorns. Trailing tones of mocha and melted dark chocolate culminate in a smooth, lingering finish reminiscent of a steak seared over a slow burning sagewood fire on the open savannah of the Maasai Mara. A truly enjoyable and exclusive lifestyle experience.