



LEOPARD FROG vineyards

Couture Cape Wines from Stellenbosch, South Africa



TAO

Proprietor's Limited Release 2009

Tao is the first wine in South Africa to combine three temperamental southern European varieties into a robust and rewarding offering that celebrates the joie de vivre that comes from sharing life with family and friends. As with Tao, such joy can never be expressed adequately in words, but life is good when enjoyed with a bottle of great wine in the company of great people.

Winemaker's Notes

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| Wine of Origin | Stellenbosch |
| Varietals | Zinfandel (70%) Sangiovese (20%) Barbera (10%) |
| Vintage | 2009 (once-off) |
| Winemaker | David John Bate |
| Production | 8 barrels |
| Bottle Size | 750 ml |
| Yield | 4 t/ha |
| °Balling/Harvest | Average 24 ° |
| Alcohol | 14.5 %/vol |
| Residual Sugar | 2.4 g/l |
| TA | 6.1 g/l |
| VA | 0.8 g/l |
| FSO ₂ | 23 mg/l |
| pH | 3.54 |
| Maturation | 18 month barrel maturation with MLF (la malo) in barrels in new French wood (Nevers) of medium plus toast and American wood (second fill) of medium plus toast with toasted heads followed by 18 month bottle aging prior to release |
| UPC | 6009812400798 (individual bottle) |
| SCC | 06009812400804 (case of 12 bottles) |

Tasting Notes

Appearance

Swirling shades of Venetian red and rosewood extend to a maroon rim pushing a ruby edge. Brilliant lustre and luminosity with long legs and notable colour extraction foreshadow a vibrant, complex personality that invites immediate interest.

Nose

Alluring aromas of blackberries, brambleberries and blueberries intermingle with top notes of cinnamon and cocoa in a large yet nuanced nose. Hints of vanilla, nutmeg and fire-cured long leaf cigar tobacco allude to substantial oak pedigree.

Taste

Satisfying sensations of baked blueberries, sun ravaged blackberries and flambéed cherries in a bold yet balanced fruit forward opening that yields to softer, more sensuous strokes of black peppercorns and Mediterranean spices that tickle the mid-palate in the most intriguing ways. Whispers of Italian espresso and melted dark chocolate deliver a luxurious and lingering farewell that completes a truly enjoyable and unique lifestyle experience.