

## DE TOREN Fusion V 2018



Winemaker	Charles Williams
Varietal Blend	51% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Malbec, 15% Cabernet Franc, 13% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot
Location	South Africa
Appellation	Stellenbosch
Alcohol Content	14.70%
TA	5.2 g/l
pH	3.58
RS	2.5 g/l

### Accolades

92 points *James Suckling*

### Certifications

Integrated Production of Wines (IPW) Certified

### Other

Vegan Friendly

### VINEYARDS:

Situated in the Polkadraai Hills of Stellenbosch at altitudes of 655 feet above sea level, the De Toren vineyards benefit from cooling breezes off False Bay, located approximately six miles to the south. There are 15 different soil types found on the estate, but the Cabernet-based Fusion V hails mainly from gravelly soils of Tukulu and Pinedene. The farm makes use of extensive Infrared Aerial Imaging in order to monitor ripeness in various vineyard blocks and determine optimal picking times.

### VINTAGE:

2018 was extremely warm and dry, with below average rainfall and cold units during the preceding winter. During ripening, the nighttime temperatures were cooler than normal, resulting in good acid and flavor development. A challenging vintage that produced sound, concentrated wines.

### VINIFICATION AND MATURATION:

The grapes were handpicked in the cool, early morning hours and transported in small baskets to the winery's cold room. From there, the grapes were hand sorted, de-stemmed, and gently crushed before being gravity fed into open-top fermentation tanks. Regular manual punch downs were performed during fermentation. The wine was basket pressed and gravity fed into 225 liter oak barrels (50% new, 50% second fill), where it was aged in a climatized barrel cellar for 12 months. Each varietal component was vinified and aged separately. All varietals were aged in French oak with the exception of Malbec, which was aged in American oak.

### TASTING NOTES:

The iconic Left Bank-based blend from De Toren Fusion V is meticulously crafted from Bordeaux's 'Noble Five' varietals and, with its complex flavors of licorice, black cherry, cedar and dark berries, it offers a stylish departure for sophisticated oenophilic tastes. Soft as spun silk, with a lingering hint of sweet fruit on the back palate, this is a wine that will only improve with age.

