


## Soldaat 2023

### The Sadie Family Wines - 75 cl.



 **Wine style:**  
Mediterranean, powerful and mineral

 **Assembly**  
Garnacha (100%)

 **Region:**  
Westkaap

 **Wine estate:**  
The Sadie Family Wines



#### Vinification

Grenache is one of the most planted red varieties globally and had a greater presence in the early 1900's in South Africa. Recent indications are that that it is making a come-back and many new vineyards have been planted lately. The reality is that young Grenache tends to over-produce and in many respects its big previous downfall can be linked to this fact, but when a vineyard comes of age and/or is planted in a less forgiving site with reduced fruit load, it can compete with the most elegant and refined reds of the Mediterranean climate. They basically fill the concrete tanks whole cluster to about 60% and then 40 % destemmed to get some juice in the tank to have the initiation of fermentation. The fermentation is for about 30 days on the skins and then press the grapes in an old basket press. After pressing the wine is transferred back into concrete, therefore the fermentation on the skins, pressing and the subsequent ageing all take place in 33HL concrete tanks. The wine is left for 8 months on the lees and then racked to another concrete tank for an additional 4 months to clear.



#### Storage potential

Drink as from : 2024  
Best moment : 2029-2031  
Until : 2034



#### Trial analysis

With the Soldaat 2022, Sadie opted again to open up the leaves around the overtly shaded bunches as the lack of direct sunlight on the bunches historically contributed to a volume of greener vegetal characteristics. This 2022 Soldaat has the characteristic red cherry and bright pomegranate fruit aromas that carry through into deeper earthy flavours. This year the colour is slightly darker but still bright red, and the tannins are softer than usual. The fruit is overall quite expressive, and the softer mouthfeel of the tannins suggests that this vintage was quite fully ripe at 13% alcohol. It will be hard not to drink it, but the wine gains massive complexity with time in the bottle.

Description domain

After having worked for several years in the Priorat and having founded Terroir al Limit there, Eben Sadie returned to his South African roots. As he said himself: "Winemakers have to make wine in the region where they were born. This is where they know best the terroir".