



Western Cape, South Africa

The Cape wine growing areas, situated in the narrow viticultural zone of the southern hemisphere, mainly have a Mediterranean climate. The mountain slopes and valleys form the ideal habitat for grape growing. Long, sun-drenched summers and mild, wet winters contribute to the ideal conditions for viticulture at the Cape.

The Cape winelands stretch from the rugged mountains and multi-directional slopes of the coastal region to the open plains. South Africa's vineyards are mostly situated in the Western Cape near the coast.

Franschoek Valley is a broad vineyard-lined valley in the southeast corner of Paarl, in South Africa's Western Cape. This small valley is home to some of South Africa's most famous wine estates and has been producing wine since the 17th Century.



FRANSCHOEK CELLAR

ORIGIN	Western Cape, South Africa
DESIGNATION	'The Last Elephant'
VARIETIES	Cabernet Sauvignon 37.5%, Cabernet Franc 30%, Merlot 30%, Petit Verdot 2.5%
ABOUT	The town of Franschoek was originally called Oliphants Hoek, meaning Elephant's Corner, and named after the herds of elephant that roamed the surrounding valley and mountains. The original mountain pass out of Franschoek was built on an old elephant trail that carried these majestic creatures between their summer and winter pastures. To this day, the Franschoek Valley holds the elephant dear as a symbol of the power and finesse that mark the wines born of its fertile earth. The Last Elephant was seen leaving the valley late in the 19th Century, inspiring this characterful, evocative wine.
VINEYARD	The grapes were sourced from specially selected cool pockets of vineyards with extended sunlight for long, slow ripening in Franschoek, Darling, Durbanville and Stellenbosch.
PROCESS	The grapes were hand-picked and fermented in closed tanks. The young wine received a post-fermentation maceration of 35 days, followed by malolactic fermentation in stainless steel. The wine was racked into 35% new French oak and matured for 14 months. 24 months in bottle to gain softness and complexity before release.
TASTING	The nose brims with enticing dark fruit; showing blackcurrants, cherries, mulberries along with cedar wood, lead pencil and cigar box aromas. These develop in the glass and are joined by raspberry, spice and a hint of gaminess on the palate. The flavors are powerful but elegant, with fine tannins that continue to soften in the glass.