



# SARONSBERG

## SARONSBERG FULL CIRCLE 2008



**Harvest:**

Cultivar: Shiraz 83%, Grenache 8%, Mourvedre 5%, Viognier 4%  
 Clones: SH1, SH22, MT11, VI642  
 Rootstock: R99 and Mgt 101-14  
 Age: Average 6 years  
 Soil: Structured red soils with coarse gravel and weathered shale soils  
 Harvest: 10 February to 3 March 2008  
 Yield: 4,7 tons per hectare (32 hl/ha)  
 Balling: 25,0°B  
 pH: 3,30 – 3,55  
 Total acid: 6,5 – 7,2 g/l

**Fermentation:**

The grapes were hand-picked in the early morning and force cooled to 4 °C. The Shiraz, Grenache and Mourvèdre components were then bunch sorted, de-stemmed and berry sorted on vibration tables by 25 highly trained staff. The berries were gently crushed into a satellite tank and deposited separately in open fermenters. The must was dejuiced by 12 to 15%. The Shiraz and Mourvèdre was given a cold soak of 4 days at 9 °C protected by a CO<sub>2</sub> blanket. The juice was pumped over once daily during this period.

The tanks were then heated to 18 °C and inoculated with BM45, and D254 yeast. The fermentation temperature was allowed to peak at 28 °C and then brought down to 24 °C. The fermenting cap was manually punched down three times and one pump-over daily. The Shiraz was given extended maceration after fermentation for 16 days total on the skins and then pressed into 100% new Allier French oak barrels. The Mourvèdre was pressed at 0°B and finished fermentation in barrels. The Viognier was cold fermented separately in barrels. The Grenache was partially fermented with whole bunches and punched down three times daily after which it was pressed once fermentation was completed on the skins. The press fractions were separated. Malolactic bacteria were inoculated and malolactic fermentation was completed in the barrel.

After malolactic fermentation the wines were given a low sulphur dose and left on gross lees for 11 months. The wine was then racked, the different components blended and returned to barrels. After a total of 19 months in barrels the wine was racked and filtered through a coarse sheet filter. Bottling was done with a fine sheet filtration. The wine was bottle matured for 12 months prior to release.

**Awards:**

**2008 Vintage**

DECANTER WORLD WINE AWARDS 2011 – GOLD  
 MICHELANGELO INTERNATIONAL WINE AWARDS 2010 – GOLD  
 VERITAS 2010 – GOLD  
 TOP 100 SA WINES STATUS

**2007 Vintage**

VERITAS 2010 – DOUBLE GOLD

**2006 Vintage**

VERITAS 2008 – GOLD  
 DECANTER WORLD WINE AWARDS 2009 – GOLD  
 JULIET CULLINAN WINE CONNOISSEURS' AWARDS 2008 - GOLD

**2005 Vintage**

IWSC 2008 - GOLD  
 MICHELANGELO INTERNATIONAL WINE AWARDS 2008 - GOLD  
 SWISS INTERNATIONAL AIRLINE AWARDS 2008 – GOLD (BEST RED WINE)  
 VERITAS 2007 - DOUBLE GOLD  
 WINEMAKERS' CHOICE DIAMOND AWARDS 2007 – TROPHY RED WINE & DIAMOND  
 MICHELANGELO INTERNATIONAL WINE AWARDS 2007 – GOLD

**2004 Vintage**

VERITAS 2005 – DOUBLE GOLD  
 WINEMAKERS' CHOICE DIAMOND AWARDS 2005 - DIAMOND

**Analysis:**

Alcohol: 15,0 vol %  
 Total acid: 5,7 g/l  
 pH: 3,62  
 Residual sugar: 2,60 g/l  
 Volatile acidity: 0,62g/l  
 Free sulphur: 19 mg/l  
 Total sulphur: 82 mg/l



The wine has a deep, dark purple colour with prominent ripe plum, red berry and floral flavours with undertones of spice. The oak is well balanced with full, firm yet accessible tannins.