



UNCORKED



BY THE SEA



Cellar Club October 2024

2022 Boekenhoutskloof The Chocolate Block Red Blend – S. Africa

Originally named Franschoek meaning the “French Corner” because it was home of French Huguenots, today the valley contains many historic cellars and is an important tourist location because of its proximity to Cape Town. This valley is enclosed on three sides by towering mountains. Streams from the slopes flow down to the valley floor, converging to form the Berg River. The area excels in the production of full-bodied reds. A svelte lady is the figurehead of Boekenhoutskloof, an early silver hallmark of the Cape of Good Hope. She carries the dove of peace and hope, guarding over Boekenhoutskloof, representing intrinsic quality, which is prized above all else. The 2022 The Chocolate Block is 77% Syrah, 9% Grenache, 8% Cinsault, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon and 1% Viognier. Boysenberry and dark cherry dominate an inviting nose, with gentle scents of violets and rose petals and intriguing whiffs of exotic spice. The brambly black and red fruits of the nose follow through with flavors of ripe plums, black currant, dried cranberries and blueberries. Slight hints of cured meat and espresso add complexity to the round, silky mid-palate. The mouth-coating texture of dark milk chocolate is balanced with fine, powdery tannins and fresh yet integrated acidity. The wine is medium-bodied, lithe, and elegant with licorice and subtle hints of crushed coriander and black cardamom lingering on a smooth, soft finish. Vinous 90 PTS

Pairings: Food pairings: Grilled meats like steak, lamb chops, or barbecued ribs, Roast chicken, western BBQ chicken, or vegetable chili, A heavenly hamburger wine.

2023 Raats Old Vine Chenin Blanc- Stellenbosch, S. Africa

Raats Family Wines was born out of the desire to show the potential of Chenin Blanc and Cabernet Franc. Founded in 2000 in Polkadraai Hills Stellenbosch by visionary winemaker Bruwer Raats, with the singular focus to master these two varieties, we craft wines that truly express the unique dolomite granite soils of the terroir of this ward. Step into the legacy of Stellenbosch with our Old Vine Chenin Blanc 2023. Crafted from the noble Chenin Blanc grape, this wine pays homage to its roots, echoing the tales of generations past. Each sip embodies the essence of the Cape of Good Hope, where tradition meets innovation, and the spirit of winemaking thrives. Indulge in a sensory journey with our Old Vine Chenin Blanc. Delicate aromas of quince, white peach, and yellow apple intertwine with fenugreek spices, creating a complex bouquet that captivates the senses. On the palate, experience a harmonious balance of stone fruits, accentuated by a peach-melba character and a hint of zesty lemon.

Pairings: Pair with mussels, white fish with a beurre blanc sauce or a spicy butternut squash soup.