



ANNO 1720

DE GRENDEL

WINES

Pinot Gris 2010



2010 Vintage

The 2010 vintage will be remembered by the South African wine industry in general for the substantially smaller crop compared to the five previous vintages. In some areas the yield dropped by a staggering 30%. The gale force winds experienced in October during the flowering season contributed greatly to this.

However, at De Grendel we experienced the opposite: the yield increased by 30%! A logical explanation is that we missed the worst of that wind during the flowering time. We initially wondered if we will be able to repeat the 2009 vintage, one of the greatest vintages of the decade. Tasting the young wines in the tanks all indications are that the 2010 vintage will match our wildest expectations.

VINEYARDS

The De Grendel vineyards are situated 7 kilometers from the Atlantic Ocean, growing on slopes 200 meters above sea level. We field-grafted a portion of Cabernet Sauvignon to Pinot Gris as we believe this variety can perform extremely well under cool, moderate growing conditions. With careful leave plucking at strategic times, we ensure an open cluster zone – resulting in higher sugars and eventually a wine with a bigger structure.

SOIL TYPE

Deep Hutton.

VINIFICATION

All fruit was handpicked in the early morning and then whole bunch pressed so that no colour pigment was released. Only 600L per ton was recovered. Three days of settling followed, racking and inoculation with selected yeast in stainless steel tank and 20% in barrel that also underwent malolactic fermentation. These two portions were blended, then stabilized and bottled.

TASTING NOTES

The wine has a light green hue with apple and pear flavours on the nose. The oak plays a minimal roll yet gives structure to the palate and the malolactic fermentation ensures a buttery richness and length on the palate.

ANALYSIS

Residual Sugar:	1.05 g/l
pH:	3.39
Total Acidity:	5.95 g/l
Alcohol:	13.7%

FOOD COMPLEMENTS

A true all occasions wine that goes especially well with pork and smoked chicken dishes.

AGING POTENTIAL

Up to 2 Years.