# Cap Maritime

*Upper Hemel en Aarde Valley, South Africa.*

## PINOT NOIR 2023

The Hemel-en-Aarde Valley is one of the most exciting places to grow Chardonnay and Pinot Noir in South Africa. Cap Maritime sits perched on top of a ridge separating the Upper Hemel-en-Aarde appellation from the Valley. It is here where we endeavour to create wines that capture the essence of their origin, while at the same time representing a style that we aspire to.

The Pinot Noir vineyards are situated in the Upper Hemel-en-Aarde Valley appellation and planted on distinctive soils comprising of Table Mountain sandstone and decomposed granite. The climate is cool and temperate, where parallel mountain ranges channel ocean winds through the appellation during the summer.

Our Pinot Noir was picked and sorted into small lug boxes and transported in refrigerated trucks to our winery in Franschhoek. At the winery, a careful triage (selection process) took place, to ensure that only healthy whole berries were transferred into concrete fermentation tanks. Most of the grapes were destemmed, leaving a whole-cluster component of about 40% with no additions being made. After spontaneous fermentation, we transferred 60% of the juice to new French Oak *barriques* for *elevage* of up to 14 months, including a prolonged malolactic fermentation under low temperatures.

*"A lot of vineyard work went into producing this Upper Hemel-en-Aarde Pinot Noir in 2023. Fermented with 40% whole bunches, it's less obviously oaked than it was in the immediate past, showing wild strawberry and cranberry flavours, savoury tannins and a mineral core. 2025-30"*
***- Tim Atkin MW, South African Report 2024***

**Alc 13.20%  TA 5.3 g/l  RS 1.29 g/l  pH 3.55**