



**Stark-Condé**  
**Three Pines**  
**Cabernet Sauvignon**  
**Jonkershoek Valley**  
**2015**



*This is one of South Africa's most awarded Cabernets. A five-time Platter 5-star wine, 3-time winner of the American Express Cabernet Trophy in South Africa and a 2-time trophy winner at the prestigious Six-Nations competition in Australia.*

Varietal: 89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Petit Verdot, 4% Cabernet Franc  
Clone: CS46C, CS163C, CS27A  
Rootstock: Richter 110, 99  
Fruit source: our Oude Nektar farm in Jonkershoek Valley  
Yield: 4.0 tons/hectare  
Alcohol: 14.5%  
Total Acid: 5.4  
Residual sugar: 2.5  
Total extract: 32.1 g/l  
Age of vines: 26 years at harvest  
Trellis: 5-wire vsp  
Irrigation: supplemental drip irrigation  
Vineyard elevation: 270-290m  
Slope: South Westerly

*Winemaker's notes:*  
The 2015 vintage is being hailed as one of the best vintages of the past 20 years. It was an extremely dry growing season with almost no rain from November through harvest. Coupled with the low yield, the wines are rich and intense with a soft, elegant tannin. With this wine we are always looking for a fine balance between Power and Elegance. When young, this wine shows the violet/cassis/black cherry notes typical of this vineyard, coupled with the fine elegant tannins for which the Jonkershoek Valley is known.

Total production: 8530 bottles

*This wine is based on our "Block 5" of Cabernet Sauvignon, the oldest block on the farm. It has a very finely textured decomposed granite soil with a fairly high percentage of clay. This wine is characterised by its fine tannin structure and its unique floral notes.*

*Details of vinification and oaking:*  
This wine is based on a higher elevation vineyard site with a finely textured decomposed granite soil with a clay sub-soil and a gentle Southwest-facing slope. The wines made from this vineyard always seem to have good ripeness coupled with good natural acidity and a unique floral note that sets it apart from our other blocks of cabernet. There are five different clones within the block, but we focus on just three: clone 46 which is well structured, but with less forward fruit; clone 27 which tends to have a firm tannin; and clone 163 which is quite fruit forward. The grapes were hand-harvested in early March. They were picked into small lug boxes and cooled overnight to 14 degrees C., then de-stemmed and carefully hand-sorted, crushed into small open fermentation vats and cold-soaked for 2-3 days until natural fermentation started. The next day they were inoculated with a mix of yeasts, half with a South African strain and the other half with an imported Bordeaux yeast. About 25% of the wine was fermented with natural yeasts. Vigorous punchdowns were given every 4 hours for the first half of fermentation, then every 6-8 hours thereafter. The wine was basket pressed and racked directly to barrel for malo-lactic fermentation and subsequent barrel maturation. A mix of coopers was used, all French oak, all 300 litre, about 70% new. The wine was bottled without fining and with only a light polishing filtration after 20 months barrel maturation.