

OUR PHILOSOPHY

At Longridge, we see the farm as a living organism.

The soil, vines, animals, and people all form part of one balanced whole. Instead of forcing nature, we follow it – guided by the rhythms of the earth, the seasons, and the cycles of the moon and stars.

Soils alive with energy, vines in balance, fruit with vibrancy and clarity.

THE RHYTHM OF THE SEASONS

WINTER – Rest & Renewal

The vines sleep while we prepare the soil. Horn Manure (Prep 500) is buried in the earth to enrich microbial life.

SPRING – Awakening

Budburst begins. Natural teas and sprays protect the vines. Early canopy work is guided by the lunar calendar.

SUMMER – Balance & Vitality

Flowers turn to fruit. Horn Silica (Prep 501) strengthens leaves and helps ripening. Horsetail tea (508) maintains balance.

AUTUMN – Harvest & Celebration

Fruit is picked on “fruit days” when energy is at its peak. Compost enriched with herbs (Preps 502–507) returns nutrients to the soil.

VINEYARD PHILOSOPHY

Biodiversity

Guinea fowl, Nguni cattle, bees, and cover crops form a self-sustaining ecosystem.

No Chemicals

No herbicides, pesticides, or synthetic fertilizers.

The Preparations

Horn manure (500) and horn silica (501) build soil vitality and ripening balance; herbal compost preps (502–507) guide decomposition; horsetail tea (508) balances moisture and disease.

The Calendar

Work is timed to root, leaf, flower, and fruit days, aligning farming with natural cycles.

PREPARATIONS

500 – Horn Manure:

Enriches soil life and root growth.

501 – Horn Silica:

Improves photosynthesis and fruit ripeness.

502–507 – Compost Preps:

Herbal remedies (yarrow, chamomile, nettle, oak bark, dandelion, valerian) guiding decomposition.

508 – Horsetail Tea:

Balances moisture and disease pressure. These are like natural medicines for the vineyard – tiny doses with profound effects.

WINEMAKING PHILOSOPHY

Fermentation

Only indigenous yeasts, no added enzymes.

Minimal Intervention

No fining or filtration; very low sulphur.

Maturation

Wines age in French & Russian oak.

Style

Wines of elegance, purity, texture, and endurance – revealing the true voice of Stellenbosch’s ridge.

WHY IT MATTERS

For us, biodynamics is not a trend. It is our covenant with the land and with future generations. The result is wines that are more vibrant, balanced, and expressive of place – wines that carry both wisdom and vitality.

ELIPTIKA BORDEAUX BLEND 2020



Ekliptika is named after the phenomenon in which the earth, stars and moon align in their orbit with the sun. Both the name and the label illustrate our biodynamic way of farming, and can be seen as a metaphor for when different components come together to create something inexplicably special and unique. This Bordeaux styled red blend is shaped to suit our unique terroir and is composed of the best batches of Cabernet Franc, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon.

TASTING NOTES

Red and black berries, with subtle notes of floral perfume, green tea, capsicum, herbs and pencil shavings. Vibrant, black cherry, fresh, full bodied Bordeaux style blend with lingering juicy tannins.

TERROIR

Rooted in the oldest viticulture soil in the world, it is made up of decomposed granite on the lower slopes of the Helderberg Mountain. This vineyard enjoyed the refreshingly cool breezes from False Bay (Atlantic Ocean) during the day and cool air at night flowing down the mountain, resulting in even ripening of the berries and good natural acidity. The macro climate is maritime, with cold wet winters and sunny warm summers, with the Helderberg Ward being the coolest in the Stellenbosch region.

VITICULTURE

The vineyards are meticulously cared for by hand and the crop is reduced to ensure maximum quality. Biodynamic & Organic practices are followed and therefore no herbicides or chemical sprays were used in the production of these grapes.

VINIFICATION

This wine is made naturally and in a biodynamic way by not making use of any commercial yeasts, enzymes or fining agents. It is further not filtered or cold stabilized and may therefore in time show harmless sediment. The Ekliptika was matured in 70% new and 30% matured French oak barrels for 18 months. With proper cellaring, this wine will improve and continue to reward over the next 15 years.

Origin Stellenbosch | Winemaker Jasper Raats
Alcohol 14,8% | Residual Sugar 1,5g/l | Total Acidity 6,0g/l | pH 3,46

94 POINTS - TIM ATKIN SA REPORT |
94 POINTS - CHRISTIAN EEDES WINEMAG | 4.5* - PLATTERS WINE GUIDE