



DE TRAFFORD PLAN B 2019

“Plan B” is a true “second” wine – a collection of barrels we feel are not quite up to the high quality we expect for our wines, but too good to sell off in bulk.

VINEYARD BLOCKS

Cabernet Sauvignon 62%

We specifically pick small sections of the vineyard that have excess vigour and vinify them separately with very little extraction. In addition we had a few barrels that took nearly a year to complete fermentation and these turned out a little softer and a little oxidative, as they were without any sulphur additions all that time.

Merlot 13%

Trying to soften the whole ensemble with two sacrificial barrels.

Cabernet Franc 11%

Syrah 6%

Cinsaut 2020 4%

Petit Verdot 4%

VINTAGE CONDITIONS

Winter rainfall was higher than previous two vintages, but about average and slightly warmer than average. Bud break was rather uneven and required additional attention to foliage management during the growing period. A relatively cool wet spring, which continued throughout much of the growing season. The high fungal pressure required adhering diligently to a suitable spray programme throughout the season. Regular rainfall and low day and night temperatures during the ripening period meant there was no water stress and ripening was gentle and slow

PRODUCTION

Plan B is produced in much the same way as the top De Trafford wines, just a barrel selection of those we don't feel meet our high standards. Hand picking, no yeast or acid additions, low SO₂, no fining or filtering are standard practices at De Trafford.

Time in some new, but mostly old 225L French oak barrels: 20 months.

Bottling date: 9/10/2020 Production: 360 x 12 x 750ml

TASTING NOTES

Youthful medium purple / red colour. Attractive candy like floral red berry nose, with some fruitcake and a little cedary oak. Medium to full bodied palate with tight tannins. Very youthful and still quite closed, with the promise of dark fruit and earthiness to evolve with time. Requires decanting for at least an hour if drunk within the next 5 years. Long, dry finish.

One of our most serious Plan Bs yet! Best 2024 to 2030.

ANALYSIS

Alc. 14.46% SG. 1.6 g/l TA 5.4g/l pH 3.66 VA 0.62 SO₂ 29^{free} 72^{total}