

CARIGNAN

DUM DUM TADA DIDI DUM — sang the soldiers of the French Foreign Legion as they marched into war. Stationed in Gibraltar, they swam across the Mediterranean, following Charles de Gaulle to set up camp in the desert of North Africa. They could sort out any problem anywhere and would at times row back home after the job was done.

When France moved out of Morocco, an exodus of renowned “pied-noirs” followed, but luckily Freddy “The Red” and his dubious cousin, “The Jackal”, were there to welcome them back. As they were not used to abiding to any law and not having much to do, they started planting thousands and thousands of hectares with Carignan, the glorious desert vine. So much was planted that there was no more arable land available in the Midi.

This caused a serious nightmare for the winemakers, but Freddy “The Red” and his friends were in red wine paradise — “Power to the People” and lots of vino to consume and to boot.

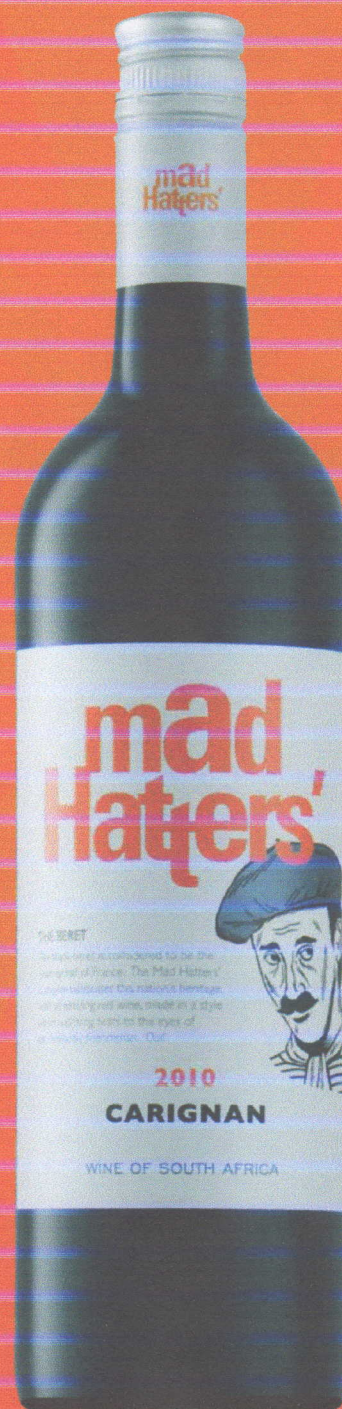
WINEMAKERS NOTES:

This wine is a vivacious Old World Charmer showing its sunny Mediterranean origins in a wine that oozes joie de vivre. The wine is aged in old French barrels to complement the mouth-feel and structure and give it its deserved classical nature. And in the wine’s expression we are talking South of France: vibrant, floral herbes de Provence. A hint of cherry with some rustic Old World nuance. Balanced acids make this wine fresh and appealing as a summer red wine.

WINE MAKING:

Grapes sourced from selected vineyards. 15 tons were fermented in a roto-tank after which the wine was aged for 12 months in a 4 000 litre barrel to which American oak staves were added. Before bottling, the wine was refreshed by adding a small percentage of a fresher vintage wine.

mad Hatters'



French Beret