

RUSTENBERG WINES

PETER BARLOW 1998

INTRODUCTION

The name of this wine pays tribute to the man who recognized the potential of Rustenberg, and bought the farm in 1941, reuniting the property, restoring its buildings and investing in its potential to make world class wines. The oldest Cabernet Sauvignon vineyard on the estate is named the Peter Barlow block and consistently produces powerful, long-lived Cabernet Sauvignon that is given the best possible treatment in the cellar. Peter's family now continues his legacy. We recommend decanting this wine before serving.

VINTAGE

Having had a cold, wet Winter in 1997, the growing season leading up the 1998 vintage was dry and crop levels were relatively low. The warm season resulted in a short, early harvest. Most of the reds tended to have a very tannic backbone to them but plenty of fruit to justify waiting for the tannins to soften. The whites were full-bodied, making for fruity white wines and structured Chardonnays.

VINEYARDS

Wine of Origin	Simonsberg, Stellenbosch
Varietal Blended	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Soil Types	Decomposed Granite, Valsrivier, Bainsvlei
Trellising/Pruning System	VSP (Vertical Shoot Positioned), 2 Node Spur Pruned
Irrigation Type	Minimal Drip Irrigation
Picking Method & Date	Hand Picked, March 1998

WINEMAKING

Extraction Method	Crushed and De-stemmed Fruit, Pumped Over During Ferment
Fermentation Vessel	Stainless Steel Tanks
Yeast	Cultured Active Dry Wine Yeast
Extended Maceration	3 Weeks
Oak Aging	20 Months
Age and Type of Oak	100% new French oak barrels
Fining Agents Used	Egg White (Albumen)
Final Analysis	Alc v/v: 12.75% TA 5.4g/L pH 3.8 RS 1.2g/L
Bottling Date	January 2000

WINE

Tasting Note	Violets, mint, coffee and blackberry dominate the aroma. Similar characters are evident on the palate, but combined with layers of fine-grained tannin.
Aging Potential	10 to 15 years from vintage under ideal cellaring conditions

ACCOLADES

AWARD	COMPETITION/PUBLICATION	YEAR/EDITION
Best New World Red Wine	Steven Spurrier in UK Decanter Magazine	2001
4 ½ Stars	John Platter Wine Guide	2001
92 Points	Robert Parker's Wine Advocate	2001

