

# RUSTENBERG WINES

## STELLENBOSCH CHARDONNAY 2012

### INTRODUCTION

Rustenberg is a well-known producer of high quality Chardonnays and the Stellenbosch Chardonnay embodies our house style. Careful tending and selection in the vineyard followed by traditional wild barrel fermentation and maturation, produces a classic Chardonnay balancing the expression of fruit, freshness, full malolactic fermentation and the influence of oak.

### VINTAGE

After a wet, cold Winter there was plenty of water available when required in the mild Summer months to ensure that the vineyards matured naturally, without undue stress. During the harvest, perfect phenolic ripeness was achieved at low sugar levels with soft, ripe tannins in the reds and plenty of flavour and acidity in the whites after longer than usual hang times in a cool growing season.

### VINEYARDS

Wine of Origin	Stellenbosch
Varietal Blended	100% Chardonnay
Soil Types	Decomposed Granite, Hutton and Tukulu
Trellising/Pruning System	VSP (Vertical Shoot Positioned), 2 Node Spur Pruned
Irrigation Type	Minimal Drip Irrigation
Picking Method & Date	Hand Picked, Late January – Mid March 2012

### WINEMAKING

Extraction Method	Whole Bunch Pressed
Fermentation Vessel	300 Litre Oak Barrels
Yeast	Wild (Uninoculated)
Lees Aging	12 Months
Oak Aging	100% aged for 12 months
Malolactic Fermentation	Yes, 100%
Age and Type of Oak	40% new and 60% 2 <sup>nd</sup> fill Burgundian oak barrels
Fining Agents Used	Isinglass & Bentonite
Final Analysis	Alc v/v: 13.78% (14% on label) TA 5.2g/L pH 3.38 RS 2.6g/L
Bottling Date	March 2013

### WINE

Tasting Note	The final product is a feast for the senses, with apricot, coconut and orange peel aromas followed by flavours of marzipan and citrus rounded off with carefully judged oak characters.
Aging Potential	This wine can be enjoyed in its youth or after careful cellaring.

### ACCOLADES

AWARD	COMPETITION/PUBLICATION	YEAR/EDITION
Gold Medal	Veritas Wine Awards, SA	2013
Gold Medal	Michelangelo International Wine Awards	2013
Silver Medal	International Wine Challenge	2014
Top 100 SA Wine	Top 100 South African Wine Awards	2014
86 Points	Robert Parker's Wine Advocate	2013
Winning Wine	Diner's Club Young South African Winemaker of the Year	2013

