

RUSTENBERG WINES

STELLENBOSCH CHARDONNAY 2014

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

The vineyards emerged from a deep, long dormancy after the wet and cold Winter of 2013 into ideal spring conditions resulting in high cropping levels across all varieties. The summer of 2014 was cool with no major heatwaves and intermittent rain resulting in the production of lower alcohol white wines that enjoyed a longer than usual ripening period, while the reds from this vintage display restraint and finesse.

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 in January and February 2014

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	25% New French oak (Remainder 2 nd , 3 rd and 4 th fill oak)
Fining Agents Used	Isinglass & Bentonite
Final Analysis	Alc v/v: 13.7% (14% on label) TA 5.3g/L pH 3.29 RS 2.8g/L
Bottling Date	January 2015

WINE

Tasting Note	Apricot, coconut and orange peel aromas followed by flavours of marzipan, sponge cake and citrus rounded off with carefully judged oak and balanced, fresh acidity
Aging Potential	8+ years from vintage under ideal cellaring conditions

ACCOLADES

AWARD	COMPETITION/PUBLICATION	YEAR/EDITION
Top 100 / Double Platinum	National Wine Challenge / Top 100 SA Wines	2016
Grand Gold Award	South African Wine Index Awards	2015
Silver Outstanding Medal	International Wine and Spirit Competition	2015
Silver Medal	International Wine Challenge	2015
Silver Medal	Decanter World Wine Awards	2015
91 Points	Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar	2015
91 Points	Robert Parker's Wine Advocate	2015
90 Points	Tim Atkins MW Report	2015
90 Points	Natalie Maclean Wine Reviews	2017
Finalist Wine	Diner's Club Young Winemaker of the Year – Murray Barlow	2015
Best Chardonnay	SA Wine of the Month Club Panel Tasting	2015

