

# RUSTENBERG WINES

## STELLENBOSCH CHARDONNAY 2015

### 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 cold wet Winter of 2014 started early and ended late, which is ideal for the vineyards' dormancy; however an unseasonably cool Spring resulted in the vines going into Summer with 10 to 40% less crop than usual. The remainder of the season was warm and dry resulting in one of the earliest harvests on record. Zero disease pressure and small crops of fantastic ripe fruit combined with high natural acids make this potentially the vintage of the decade.

### VINEYARDS

Wine of Origin	Stellenbosch
Varietal Blended	100% Chardonnay
Soil Types	Decomposed Granite
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 2015

### 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 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> fill oak)
Fining Agents Used	Isinglass & Bentonite
Final Analysis	Alc v/v: 14% TA 5.7g/L pH 3.34 RS 2.0g/L
Bottling Date	June 2016

### 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
Double Gold Medal	National Wine Challenge / Top 100 SA Wines	2017
Silver Outstanding Medal	International Wine and Spirit Competition	2016
Silver Medal (92 Points)	Decanter World Wine Awards	2017
Silver Medal	Veritas Awards	2016
Silver Medal	International Wine Challenge	2017
Silver Medal	Old Mutual Trophy Wine Show	2017
95 Points	Decanter Magazine	March 2017
92 Points	Prescient Chardonnay Report	2016
91 Points	Wine Enthusiast	April 2018
90 Points	Robert Parker, Jr – Wine Advocate	April 2017

