

RUSTENBERG WINES

STELLENBOSCH SAUVIGNON BLANC 2019

INTRODUCTION

The Rustenberg Stellenbosch Sauvignon Blanc is grown at some of the highest altitudes that vineyards are grown at in the Stellenbosch region; just over 550m above sea level, right against the Simonsberg Mountain. The cooling effect of altitude and the oceanic breeze blowing off False Bay and Table Bay which are both within line of sight of the vineyards, combined with the vineyards being planted on West facing slopes make this ideal for the production of a full flavoured, more tropical styled Sauvignon Blanc. Made without the influence of oak the wines are aged on their lees for further palate weight and complexity to balance out the wines' natural acidity.

VINTAGE

The 2019 vintage was a challenging one for the Rustenberg team. While the winter of 2018 was a welcome break from the previous four winters of drought, most vineyards had not fully recovered and produced below average yields. A warm snap in June and a wet Spring, coupled with a wetter than average Summer harvesting season made 2019 a challenge, with some late harvest thinning or multiple harvests of the same vineyard required to achieve uniformity. Early and mid-season ripening varieties performed well, all achieving flavour ripeness at lower alcohol levels, while late ripening varieties required patience and extended time on the vines, again achieving lower alcohols overall, but creating ripe, structured wines.

VINEYARDS

Wine of Origin	Simonsberg-Stellenbosch
Varietal Blended	100% Sauvignon Blanc
Soil Types	Decomposed Granite, Hutton/Tukulu; Shale
Trellising/Pruning System	VSP (Vertical Shoot Positioned), 2 Node Spur Pruned
Irrigation Type	Minimal Drip Irrigation
Picking Method & Date	Hand Picked, February 2019

WINEMAKING

Extraction Method	Crushed, De-Stemmed and Pressed
Fermentation Vessel	Stainless Steel Tanks
Yeast	Cultured Active Dry Wine Yeast
Lees Aging	2-3 Months
Oak Aging	N/A
Malolactic Fermentation	N/A
Age and Type of Oak	N/A
Fining Agents Used	Isinglass & Bentonite
Final Analysis	Alc v/v: 13.5% TA 6.0g/L pH 3.31 RS 1.9g/L
Bottling Date	June 2019

WINE

Tasting Note	The intrinsic Sauvignon Blanc characteristics of tropical fruits, melon and gooseberry, with underlying tones of pineapple and passion fruit sustained on a fresh, crisp and well-balanced palate with prodigious length.
Aging Potential	1 to 3 years from vintage

ACCOLADES

AWARD	COMPETITION/PUBLICATION	YEAR/EDITION
91 Points	International Wine Challenge	2020 – Tranche 1
Double Gold Medal	Michelangelo International Wine Awards	2019
Silver Medal	Veritas Wine Awards	2019

