

RUSTENBERG WINES

STELLENBOSCH UNWOODED CHARDONNAY 2015

INTRODUCTION

Rustenberg is a well-known producer of premium Chardonnay and the Unwooded Chardonnay is a fairly new addition to the Rustenberg range, one in contrast to the two wooded styles produced. The aim is to create a wine that, without the influence of oak, expresses the varietal character and generosity of Chardonnay when the finest fruit is vinified for this purpose. Lees aging adds palate weight and complements the wine's citrus fruit profile to create a wine that can be enjoyed on its own or with food.

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	Glenrosa & Klapmuts
Trellising/Pruning System	VSP (Vertical Shoot Positioned), 2 Node Spur Pruned
Irrigation Type	Minimal Drip Irrigation
Picking Method & Date	Hand Picked, January/February 2015

WINEMAKING

Extraction Method	De-Stemmed, Crushed and Pressed
Fermentation Vessel	Stainless Steel Tanks
Yeast	Wild (Uninoculated) and Cultured Active Dry Wine Yeast
Lees Aging	2-3 Months, stirring the lees once a week
Oak Aging	None
Malolactic Fermentation	None
Age and Type of Oak	None
Fining Agents Used	Isinglass & Bentonite
Final Analysis	Alc v/v: 13.5% TA 5.7g/l pH 3.47 RS 2.2g/l
Bottling Date	January 2016

WINE

Tasting Note	Lime green straw in colour. Bright citrus aromas and fruit with elegant oatmeal whiffs, flinty and attractively lean on the palate ending with a refreshingly crisp finish. This wine will complement a lightly spiced meal, or simply be enjoyed on its own.
Aging Potential	Up to 5 years from vintage

ACCOLADES

AWARD	COMPETITION/PUBLICATION	YEAR/EDITION
Double Gold	National Wine Challenge / Top 100 SA Wines	2016
Gold Medal	Concours Mondial de Bruxelles	2016
Gold Medal	Michelangelo International Wine Awards	2016
Silver Medal	Veritas Awards	2016

