

RUSTENBERG WINES

STRAW WINE 2012

INTRODUCTION

This wine has been made using a centuries-old process of drying grapes on straw in order to produce dessert style wines. Grapes are harvested at the same ripeness required to make table wine and are then laid out on straw for a number of weeks. This allows the grapes to slowly dehydrate, concentrating their natural sugar, acid and flavour. The straw also acts as a wick for any excess moisture, ensuring the grapes do not rot. After gently pressing the dehydrated grapes the concentrated juice is slowly fermented and aged in old oak barrels to create a balanced luscious dessert wine.

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	Coastal Region, Western Cape
Varietal Blended	56% Chenin Blanc, 44% Crouchen
Soil Types	A combination of Sandy, Loamy and Granitic Soils
Trellising/Pruning System	Various Trellises, Spur Pruned
Irrigation Type	Minimal Drip Irrigation and Unirrigated Vineyards
Picking Method & Date	Hand Picked, February 2012

WINEMAKING

Extraction Method	Gentle Pressing
Fermentation Vessel	Oak barrels
Yeast	Cultured Active Dry Wine Yeast
Lees Aging	None
Oak Aging	7 Months
Malolactic Fermentation	None
Age and Type of Oak	Old 300L and 500L French oak barrels
Fining Agents Used	Isinglass & Bentonite
Final Analysis	Alc v/v: 10.42% TA 7.0g/L pH 3.60 RS 212.8g/L
Bottling Date	September 2014

WINE

Tasting Note	Luscious raisin, honey and green mango fruit on the nose and palate with a wonderfully refreshing sugar and acid balance make this a wine to be enjoyed on its own and with both sweet and savoury desserts.
Aging Potential	Excellent maturation potential under ideal cellaring conditions

ACCOLADES

AWARD	COMPETITION/PUBLICATION	YEAR/EDITION
Silver Outstanding Medal	International Wine and Spirit Competition	2015
Silver Medal	International Wine Challenge	2015
Silver Medal	Old Mutual Trophy Wine Show	2015
93 Points	Tim Atkins MW Report	2015

