

# RUSTENBERG WINES

## FIVE SOLDIERS 2012

### INTRODUCTION

The Five Soldiers vineyard is named after five tall stone pine trees called the "Five Soldiers" that tower over this site. Carefully selected Chardonnay bunches from this area are hand harvested for this special wine and then given royal treatment in the cellar. The final product is a very complex full-bodied wine, approachable in its youth however careful cellaring will exhibit the depth of the wine's complexity and will reward patience.

### 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

<b>Wine of Origin</b>	Simonsberg, Stellenbosch
<b>Varietal Blend</b>	100% Chardonnay
<b>Soil Types</b>	Decomposed Granite, Hutton and Tukulu
<b>Trellising/Pruning System</b>	VSP (Vertical Shoot Positioned), 2 Node Spur Pruned
<b>Irrigation Type</b>	Minimal Drip Irrigation
<b>Picking Method &amp; Date</b>	Hand Picked, February 2012

### WINEMAKING

<b>Extraction Method</b>	Whole Bunch Pressed
<b>Fermentation Vessel</b>	300 Litre French Oak Hogshead Barrels
<b>Yeast</b>	Wild (Uninoculated)
<b>Lees Aging</b>	Aged On Lees For Duration Of Oak Aging
<b>Oak Aging</b>	100% Aged For 15 months
<b>Malolactic Fermentation</b>	Yes, 100%
<b>Age and Type of Oak</b>	70% New Burgundian 300L Hogsheads (Remainder 2 <sup>nd</sup> fill)
<b>Fining Agents Used</b>	Isinglass & Bentonite
<b>Final Analysis</b>	Alc v/v: 13.5% TA 5.3g/L pH 3.33 RS 2.5g/L
<b>Bottling Date</b>	August 2013

### WINE

<b>Tasting Note</b>	Characters of ripe citrus, melon and peach with great minerality, rounded out by well-judged oaking. A very complex wine with a long and creamy finish and a good acid backbone.
<b>Aging Potential</b>	10+ years from vintage under ideal cellaring conditions



### ACCOLADES

AWARD	COMPETITION/PUBLICATION	YEAR/EDITION
Miele Trophy for Best Chardonnay	Old Mutual Trophy Wine Show	2015
Top 100 SA Wine	Top 100 South African Wine Awards	2015
Platinum Award	South African Wine Index Awards	2015
Double Gold Medal	Veritas Awards	2015
Gold Medal	Michelangelo International Wine & Spirit Awards	2015
Silver Medal	International Wine Challenge	2015
Silver Medal	International Wine and Spirit Competition	2015
93 Points	Robert Parker's Wine Advocate	October 2014
92 Points	Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar	2015
4 Stars	Christian Eedes Chardonnay Review	2014