

RUSTENBERG WINES

FIVE SOLDIERS 2004

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

A dry Winter in 2003 meant the vines struggled in early spring and were relieved with rain in late Spring. While the rest of the season was fairly cool and balanced, the dry Winter set the vines and the flowering back, and coupled with an early on-set of Winter, made this a difficult vintage. A generous irrigation regime in Spring and very selective green harvesting of a big initial crop meant that we produced a small but very good quality crop of fruit in 2004. The wines of 2004 are medium-bodied, elegant and understated.

VINEYARDS

Wine of Origin	Simonsberg, Stellenbosch
Varietal Blended	100% Chardonnay
Soil Types	Decomposed Granite, Hutton and Tukulu
Trellising/Pruning System	VSP (Vertical Shoot Positioned), 2 Node Spur Pruned
Irrigation Type	Minimal Drip Irrigation
Picking Method & Date	Hand Picked, February 2004

WINEMAKING

Extraction Method	Whole Bunch Pressed
Fermentation Vessel	225 Litre Oak Barrels
Yeast	Wild (Uninoculated)
Lees Aging	Aged On Lees For Duration Of Oak Aging
Oak Aging	100% Aged for 15 Months
Malolactic Fermentation	Yes, 100%
Age and Type of Oak	70% New Burgundian Barrels (Remainder 2 nd fill)
Fining Agents Used	Isinglass & Bentonite
Final Analysis	Alc v/v: 14.29% (14.5% on label) TA 5.8g/L pH 3.21 RS 2.9g/L
Bottling Date	May 2005

WINE

Tasting Note	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.
Aging Potential	10+ years from vintage under ideal cellaring conditions

ACCOLADES

AWARD	COMPETITION/PUBLICATION	YEAR/EDITION
91 Points	Wine Spectator Online Edition	2007
92 Points	Steve Tanzer's International Wine Cellar Online Edition	2007
4 Stars	John Platter Wine Guide	2007

