

RUSTENBERG WINES

FIVE SOLDIERS 2005

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

Following a dry Winter in 2004 the entire growing season of 2005 was warm and dry. The result was a very early harvest and rigorous bunch selection due to poor berry set and uneven ripeness. The wines produced from this harvest tend to be big and bold in style and are packed with fruit. The whites tend to be best consumed young, while the reds are very concentrated and will reward aging, with plenty of ripe fruit to appreciate as the wines age.

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 2005

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: 14.65% (14.5% on label) TA 6.5g/L pH 3.21 RS 2.5g/L
Bottling Date	May 2006

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
92 Points	Wine Spectator Magazine	February 2008
4 ½ Stars	John Platter Wine Guide	2008

