

RUSTENBERG WINES

FIVE SOLDIERS 2007

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 normal cold wet Winter in 2006 even bud-burst was achieved in Spring followed by a great berry set and a large crop on most vines. January, however, presented a number of heatwaves and sped ripening up rapidly only to be tempered by rains in February and March. This was a harvest of two halves – warm conditions for the whites and cooler conditions for the reds. Experience and patience helped us create great quality wines under these tough conditions.

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 2007

WINEMAKING

Extraction Method	Whole Bunch Pressed
Fermentation Vessel	500 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: 14.06% TA 5.26g/L pH 3.35 RS 3.61g/L
Bottling Date	October 2008

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
4 ½ Stars	John Platter Wine Guide	2010

