

RUSTENBERG WINES

FIVE SOLDIERS 2009

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

The 2009 vintage has been hailed as one of the best vintages of the decade. Following on from a normal cold, wet Winter was a Spring that allowed balanced growth and rain at the right times. The Summer was warm but devoid of heat waves and the small, later ripening crop of fruit that arrived in the cellar was seamless, requiring the winemaking team to simply guide the wines through the cellar with little intervention. The result: balanced, opulent and ageable wines.

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 2009

WINEMAKING

Extraction Method	Whole Bunch Pressed
Fermentation Vessel	300 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: 13.1% TA 6.19g/L pH 3.33 RS 3.34g/L
Bottling Date	June 2010

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
Trophy for Best Chardonnay – Museum Class	Old Mutual Trophy Wine Awards	2017
Gold Medal	Veritas Wine Awards, SA	October 2011
Silver Medal	Decanter World Wine Awards	2011
Silver Medal	International Wine Challenge	2011
91 Points	Robert Parker's Wine Advocate	2011
91 Points	Wine Enthusiast's Advanced Buying Guide	May 2011
90 Points	Winemag 10 Year Old Wine Report	March 2019
4 ½ Stars	John Platter Wine Guide	2012