

RUSTENBERG WINES

FIVE SOLDIERS 2013

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 vines emerged from a cold, wet Winter and enjoyed even budding in the Spring of 2012. Strong winds in early Summer affected the yields and canopies of some varieties but cool and consistent weather in early 2013 resulted in later than usual ripening. The cool growing season meant the grapes reaching their flavour ripeness with low sugars resulting in medium-bodied, elegant wines being produced.

VINEYARDS

Wine of Origin	Simonsberg, Stellenbosch
Varietal Blend	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 2013

WINEMAKING

Extraction Method	Whole Bunch Pressed
Fermentation Vessel	300 Litre French Oak Hogshead 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 300L Hogsheads (Remainder 2 nd fill)
Fining Agents Used	Isinglass & Bentonite
Final Analysis	Alc v/v: 13.5% TA 5.9g/L pH 3.38 RS 2.5g/L
Bottling Date	August 2014

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
Miele Trophy for Best Chardonnay	Old Mutual Trophy Wine Show	2016
Top 100 / Double Platinum	National Wine Challenge / Top 100 SA Wines	2016
Gold Award	Six Nations Wine Challenge	2016
92 Points	Tim Atkin MW Report	2015
90 Points	Tim Atkin MW Report	2016
90 Points	Prescient Chardonnay Report	2015
Top Chardonnay	SA Wine of the Month Club Chardonnay Tasting	2016