

RUSTENBERG WINES

FIVE SOLDIERS 2011

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

Despite a dry Winter, there was plenty of water when required in the hot Summer months to get the vineyards to mature naturally without excessive irrigation. Good vineyard canopies allowed optimum light penetration for uniform ripening and development of good colour and flavour. At harvest, the berries came in at lovely low sugars due to cool conditions and were packed with flavour.

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 2011

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: 13.63% TA 5.53g/L pH 3.29 RS 2.56g/L
Bottling Date	August 2012

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 Awards	2020
Miele Trophy for Best Chardonnay	Old Mutual Trophy Awards	2013
Double Gold Medal	Veritas Wine Awards, SA	2013
Top 100 SA Wines	Top 100 South African Wine Awards	2013
90 Points	Robert Parker's Wine Advocate	October 2013
4 ½ Stars	John Platter Wine Guide	2014