



**RUSTENBERG**  
**WINES**

# Stellenbosch Cabernet Sauvignon 2020

## Introduction

Stellenbosch and the Simonsberg Mountain range are synonymous with the production of great Cabernet Sauvignon. Just over one third of Rustenberg's vineyard plantings are dedicated to this variety and it is used through all of our blended red wines, and the famous site-specific Peter Barlow. The Stellenbosch Cabernet Sauvignon is made in a more fruit forward and medium bodied style and is accessible in its youth but will benefit from further bottle age. We recommend decanting this wine before serving.

## Vintage

The 2020 vintage will be remembered as a good vintage produced under the spectre of the COVID-19 pandemic impacting the globe. Fortunately, the harvest was not impacted on Rustenberg by the government-sanctioned lockdowns, allowing all fruit to be picked and processed when ripe. A good winter in 2019 saw a return to average rainfall for the year. Two unusual weather events in the growing season, a large rainstorm and a heat wave, impacted some varieties flowering and berry set, however, in the context of the entire vintage these had a minor impact. Crop levels were up by 15% from the 2019 vintage, which saw a return to yields being average to slightly above average for most varieties. Quality wise, the white wines have superb acids and more moderate alcohols with wonderful fruit concentration, while the reds tend to be more medium-bodied with moderate alcohols, good freshness and supple tannins, potentially to be enjoyed earlier.

## Vineyard

Wine of Origin	Stellenbosch
Varietal Blended	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Soil Types	Glenrosa, Bainsvlei and Hutton
Trellising/Pruning System	VSP (Vertical Shoot Positioned), 2 Node Spur Pruned
Irrigation Type	Minimal Drip Irrigation
Picking Method & Date	Hand Picked, March 2020

## Winemaking

Extraction Method	Crushed and De-stemmed Fruit, Pumped Over During Ferment
Fermentation Vessel	Stainless Steel
Yeast	Cultured Active Dry Wine Yeast
Extended Maceration	0 to 7 days
Oak Aging	100% aged for 15 Months
Age and Type of Oak	20% new, 40% 2nd, 20% 3rd & 20% 4th fill French 225L barrels
Fining Agents Used	Egg Whites (Albumen)
Final Analysis	Alc v/v: 14% TA 5.5g/L pH 3.63 RS 3.0g/L
Bottling Date	October 2021

## Wine

Tasting Note	The wine shows typical Cabernet Sauvignon flavour and aroma profiles of dark berries and tobacco with a well-structured and lengthy palate.
Aging Potential	Up to 12 years from vintage under ideal cellaring conditions

## Accolades

Award:	Competition/Publication:	Year/Edition:
Silver Medal – 92 Points	International Wine Challenge	2022
92 Points	Robert Parker's Wine Advocate	2023
91 Points	Winemag.co.za – Christiaan Eedes	2022
Silver Medal – 90 Points	Decanter World Wine Awards	2022
90 Points – 4.5 Stars	Platter's Wine Guide	2023

