



RUSTENBERG
WINES

Stellenbosch R M Nicholson 2024

Introduction

This wine is named after a former charismatic owner-winemaker, Reginald (“Reg”) Merriman Nicholson, who lived and worked on the farm for 30 years and was the creator of Rustenberg’s famous “Dry Red” blend. Just as the Dry Red was an unconventional blend, the RM Nicholson is a new world style blend of classic varieties that would typically not be combined. The result is a blend of Bordeaux and Rhone varieties aiming to express the typicity of each vintage, unrestrained by convention to create great wine. We recommend decanting this wine before serving.

Vintage

The Winter of 2023 was cold and wet, as was the season’s Spring, leading to the late budding of many varieties. While the excellent ground water availability was welcome, the early growing conditions were challenging due to the influence of rain. The resultant humidity, and at other times high winds, ultimately resulted in lower cropping levels. As Summer progressed, the influence of the El Nino weather phenomenon brought ideal warm, dry ripening conditions, as well as an early start and end to the vintage, a relief from the past few wetter harvests. The overall quality of the wines produced across the board in 2024 was superb.

Vineyard

Wine of Origin	Stellenbosch
Varietal Blended	Shiraz 50%, Cabernet Sauvignon 35%, Merlot 15%
Soil Types	Hutton and Tukulu
Trellising/Pruning System	VSP (Vertical Shoot Positioned), 2 Node Spur Pruned
Irrigation Type	Minimal Drip Irrigation
Picking Method & Date	Hand Picked, March 2024

Winemaking

Extraction Method	Shiraz, Destemmed and Crushed. Cabernet and Merlot, Mechanically Destemmed & Sorted Followed by Hand Sorting & Whole-Berry Fermentation. All Batches Pumped Over During Ferment.
Fermentation Vessel	Stainless Steel Tanks
Yeast	Cultured Active Dry Wine Yeast
Extended Maceration	Up to 7 days
Oak Aging	15 Months
Age and Type of Oak	10% new and 95% 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th fill French oak barrels
Fining Agents Used	Egg White (Albumen)
Final Analysis	Alc v/v: 14.32% TA 5.67g/L pH 3.58 RS 2.62g/L
Bottling Date	August 2025

Wine

Tasting Note	Blackcurrant aromas are complemented by scents of dried herbs and notes of black pepper and spice, followed by serious structure from the Bordeaux varieties and finishing off with softness from the Shiraz.
Aging Potential	Up to 10 years from vintage under ideal cellaring conditions.

Accolades

Award:	Competition/Publication:	Year/Edition:
	New Vintage – No Accolades	

