

**CROCODILE'S LAIR CHARDONNAY, BOUCHARD  
FINLAYSON**

Vintage

2019



The Crocodile's Lair vineyard is located 700m above sea level, ripens a month later than others and benefits enormously from cool autumn temperatures.

**TASTING NOTE**

Stunning initial aromas of spice intertwined effortlessly with citrus blossom and zest. Perfectly balanced textural richness is delivered with integrated oak support. The palate is refreshed by a persistent oyster-shell coated finish.

**VINTAGE CONDITIONS**

Vintage 2019 will long be remembered for the raging wild fire that swept across the Hemel-en-Aarde Valley on the 11th January – less than three weeks before the first grapes were picked. Bouchard were fortunate not to be majorly impacted and brought in a healthy, yet slightly lighter crop. The reduced yield being the result of milder than normal winter temperatures. Weather conditions remained cool and relatively dry throughout February and March.

**VINIFICATION DETAILS**

Bunches are added to the press intact and the juices extracted from the berries by long and gentle pressing, yielding more clarity and flavour complexities. Fermentation occurs in oak barrels varying in age between new and fifth fill and typically lasts for a week. Thereafter, depending on vintage needs, a proportion of the barrels are prevented from completing malo-lactic fermentation, thus retaining palate freshness and gaining fruit focus. The final blend is raked from barrel following eight months maturation without any stirring of the lees and bottled with a light filtration.










**TECHNICAL ANALYSIS**

Alcohol	Residual sugar
13.5	2.6
pH	Acidity
3.43	5.6

**AWARDS**

IWC & IWSC: Gold  
Tim Atkin MW: 94 pts

**ATTRIBUTES**

 Origin South Africa	 Variety Chardonnay	 Malolactic Fermentation Partial	 Bottle Size 75cl	 Vegetarian Yes
 Winemaker Chris Albrecht	 Finning Agent Bentonite	 Closure Cork	 Region Walker Bay	 Vegan Yes