SECKFORD AGENCIES

RUSTENBERG WINES

RUSTENBERG

FIVE SOLDIERS CHARDONNAY, RUSTENBERG

Vintage 2025



TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Alcohol	Residual sugar
13.5	2.5
pH	**Acidity**
3.33	5.4

The Five Soldiers vineyard is named after five tall stone pine trees known as the 'Five Soldiers' that tower over this site at Rustenberg.

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.

VINTAGE CONDITIONS

The Winter of 2024 arrived later than usual, with the record rainfall and cold temperatures experienced in July allowing for the vineyards to transition into dormancy. This later than usual onset of dormancy resulted in late budding for many grape varieties. Budding and berry set were even, and the cooler, moderate and dry growing season set the scene for the vintage. There was a brief heat spike at the end of December, however, January was cool and dry with big day/night temperature changes, resulting in excellent acidity and freshness being a hallmark of the vintage. February and March were near perfect for ripening, being warm and dry with little disease pressure and no heat wave conditions to stress the vineyards at this crucial time. The result of these conditions was a remarkable, cellar-worthy vintage. The reds are some of the best seen since 2015 with excellent concentration, depth of colour and structure. The whites have wonderful flavour development, fruit intensity and freshness.

VINIFICATION DETAILS

After hand harvesting, the grapes were whole bunch pressed before fermentation in 300L French oak Hogshead barrels (72% new, 28% second fill) using wild yeasts. The wine underwent full malolactic fermentation and was aged on its lees for 14 months before bottling.

ATTRIBUTES

Origin	Variety	Malolactic Fermentation	Bottle Size	Vegetarian
South Africa	Chardonnay	Yes	75cl	No

Winemaker	Fining Agent	Closure	Region	Vegan
Murray Barlow	Isinglass & Bentonite	Screw top	Simonsberg-Stellenbosch	No