



VONDELING
VOOR-PAARDEBERG WINES

Bowwood Chenin 2019

VINEYARDS

This wine is made from a single, site-specific vineyard, planted in ancient granitic soils. It's the highest vineyard on Vondeling and offers magnificent views of our beautiful Voor Paardeberg region. The elevation of the vines, as well as the steepness of the slope and a South facing aspect, ensure that this is our coolest location. The vineyard has poor vigour and the vines are shy yielding. This ensures tiny berries with concentrated flavour and vibrant acidity.

VINIFICATION

The grapes are hand-picked in mid-February with a ripeness of 23.5 Balling. Each bunch is pre-chilled before being whole bunch pressed. The juice remains unsettled and is transferred immediately to French Oak barrels for fermentation. At no stage is yeast or acid added and the "Dirty juice" acts as a nutrient source for the indigenous yeast. It also imparts considerable structure and gives the wine its golden appearance. During the wine's winter maturation on the gross lees, it normally undergoes a high degree of Malolactic fermentation. This process softens the wine and ensures the harmonious integration of the oak. After winter, the finest barrels are selected, racked and returned for an additional 6 months in barrel. In January, the barrels are screened a second time and the chosen few are prepared for bottling. Due to the fullness and structure of this wine, we insist on a minimum of 9 months rest in bottle before release for purchase.

FURTHER REMARKS

The Bowwood motto is to produce singular, sight-specific wines that exemplify not only the best examples of their type in South Africa but of those of the world. Special attention is given to how the wine will mature over time and we highly recommend additional cellaring to release the wine's full potential.

TASTING NOTES & CELLARING & FOOD PAIRING

Light dances through this wine's bright, gold leaf colour. It captures, bends and reflects with the same hypnotic rhythm as a fresh mountain stream in the late light of summer. A cerebral experience, the wine is initially timid on the nose, but soon explodes kaleidoscopically in the back of the brain. Delicate apricot, yellow pear and cut straw aromas are fabulously supported by denser greengage, crushed cumin, raw almond and wild celery. The palate is luxurious and full, with a chalky dryness and vast savoury spectrum. Its mineral freshness showcases honeyed tangerine, roasted corn, ripe quince and sweet cashew. Savoury notes include freshly minced bay leaf and fine ground nutmeg. We recommend this wine be paired with nut crusted swordfish and saffron infused risotto or crispy, shredded duck on spring onion pancakes with tomato salsa.

Accolades

2021 Platter's Guide – 4.5 Stars
2020 Winemag 93 Points



Analysis

pH 3.6
Total Acidity 5.3 g/l
Residual Sugar 4.4 g/l
Alcohol 13.8 %

