Rudera Robusto Chenin Blanc 2009

technical analysis

Winemaker :	.
Main Variety :	Chenin Blanc
Alcohol :	14.29 %vol
pH :	3.42
RS :	4.7 g/l
Total Acid :	5.1 g/l
Volatile Acidity :	0.47 g/l
Appellation :	Stellenbosch

characteristics

Type :	White
Style :	Dry
Body :	Full

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accolades

From the first release in 2000 the Robusto has set the pace for serious Chenin blanc in South Africa and has achieved the following accolades:

- The Rudera Robusto Chenin blanc 2000 won a gold medal at the *Michelangelo International Wine Award 2002*; a silver medal in the *South African Trophy Wine Show 2002* (Top 100 wines); was a top ten finalist in the *Diners Club winemaker of the Year* awards; and scored **** rating in the *John Platter South African Wines Guide 2003*.
- The 2001 vintage won a gold medal at the *Michelangelo International Wine Award 2002*; a silver medal in the *South African Trophy Wine Show 2002* (Top 100 wines); voted as a South African top 100 wine and scored **** in *ICONS, South Africa's Champion Wines 2003*; a top ten finalist in the *Diners Club winemaker of the Year* awards; and scored **** rating in the *John Platter South African Wines Guide 2004*.
- The Rudera Robusto Chenin blanc 2002 was the winner of the *2005 WINE Chenin Challenge* with ****(*) and one of first three wines in South Africa to achieve *SUPER CHENIN* status from the *Chenin Blanc Association* based on consistent high quality. It scored ****(*) rating in the *John Platter South African Wines Guide 2005*. At the *2004 Rendez-vous du Chenin in Loire*, the Rudera Robusto Chenin blanc 2002 was voted as one of the best expressions of Chenin blanc in the world. In June 2005 *Wine International* rated this wine 93.
- The 2003 vintage received **** in the February 2005 issue of *WINE Magazine*. It scored ****(*) rating in the *John Platter South African Wines Guide 2006*.
- Rudera Robusto Chenin blanc 2004 scored ****(*) rating in the *John Platter South African Wines Guide 2007*.
- The 2005 vintage was awarded five stars in the *John Platter South African Wines Guide 2007*. The 2005 vintage was voted as one of the best expressions of Chenin Blanc in the world at the *2006 Rendez-vous du Chenin in Loire*. In the *WINE Chenin Challenge* of 2008, the Rudera Robusto Chenin Blanc 2005 achieved second place and the 2006 vintage sixth place. *Grape*, December 2006 chose a panel of two dozen wine professionals to vote for the Cape's best individual wines, with a track record of excellence over the past five releases and Robusto Chenin Blanc was named fourth best White Wine in South Africa.
- The 2006 vintage scored ****(*) rating in the *John Platter South African Wines Guide 2008* and was one of the first three wines in South Africa to achieve *SUPER CHENIN* status from the *Chenin Blanc Association* based on consistent high quality. The Rudera Robusto Chenin blanc 2006 is one of only two wines that received this honour for the fifth time.
- Rudera Robusto Chenin blanc 2007 scored ****(*) rating in the *John Platter South African Wines Guide 2009*.
- Rudera Robusto Chenin blanc 2008 scored ****(*) rating in the *John Platter South African Wines Guide 2010*.
- Rudera Robusto Chenin blanc 2009 scored **** rating in the *John Platter South African Wines Guide 2011*.
- Rudera Robusto Chenin blanc 2009 scored ****(*) rating in the *John Platter South African Wines Guide 2012*.

tasting notes

Developing gold shot with lime, rich tropical / spicy nose, boisterous peach / pear /

guava fruit on the nose which follows through on the palate. Good crisp acidity balances the flavours. A taut yet luscious wine with structure, texture and length will reward aging.

ageing potential

Drinking exceptionally well now and will gain in intricacy over the next four years. Complexity is the hallmark of this wine.

blend information

100% Chenin Blanc

in the vineyard

The grapes for the Robusto are from 30 year-old bush vines situated in Bottelary Hills, in the Stellenbosch region. The vineyard faces north-easterly and is situated at the top of the hill on a geographical fault line. The soil of the vineyard consists of a mixture of decomposed granite and shale over clay subsoil with very good water-retention capacities. Canopy management of the vines ensured natural high acidity and full flavour concentration. No irrigation is available.

about the harvest

The grapes were hand-picked in the early morning at 23° B. The yield was 5.7 (33.5 hl/ha) tons per hectare, with an acid of 6.3 g/l and a pH of 3.36.

in the cellar

The grapes went through natural fermentation without the addition of commercial yeast, enzymes, acids, or fining agents. It is neither filtered nor cold-stabilised and therefore may in time throw harmless sediment. Robusto is a bold, barrel-fermented Chenin Blanc, made in a richer, full-bodied style.