

INDABA Chardonnay 2016



Winemaker	Bruwer Raats
Varietal Blend	100% Chardonnay
Location	South Africa
Appellation	Western Cape
Alcohol Content	13%
TA	5.7 g/l
pH	3.52
RS	2.6 g/l

Noteworthy

A commitment to social responsibility is a key part of the Indaba philosophy, and a portion of the brand's sales supports early education for wineland workers' children.

Certifications

Integrated Production of Wines (IPW) Certified, Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment (BBBEE) Level 5

VINEYARDS:

Grapes were sourced from select vineyard sites in Robertson, Paarl-Paardeberg, McGregor and Stellenbosch, with vines ranging from 10-30 years old. The limestone and decomposed shale soils of Robertson and McGregor yield wines of great acidity which combine zesty citrus and yellow fruit flavors with a flinty, mineral character. The Paarl-Paardeberg and Stellenbosch components—from soils of weathered granite—bring a lush profile with tropical fruit flavors.

VINTAGE:

The 2016 growing season was extremely dry and hot. It was the earliest harvest on record in the Cape, occurring on average two weeks earlier than usual. Warm, dry conditions helped to keep grapes free from any rot or disease pressure. Low moisture levels resulted in reduced yields. Vines produced compact bunches and small berries, which translated into wines of great fruit concentration. Ripeness was achieved at lower sugar (and hence alcohol) levels.

VINIFICATION AND MATURATION:

The grapes were picked in the cool early morning hours. They were de-stemmed and gently pressed, and the juice was settled overnight. Most of the wine was cold fermented in stainless steel tanks to create a bright, fruit-driven wine. A small portion (roughly 2%) was fermented in new 225 liter French oak barrels, with weekly batonnage. The wine was aged on its fine lees for several months to develop further in complexity.

TASTING NOTES:

Bright tropical fruit aromas lead to a crisp, fresh palate with mouth-filling flavors of apple, pear, honey and pineapple. A gentle kiss of oak adds a creamy butterscotch nuance and wonderful depth. A superb value, this versatile white is a fantastic match for a wide range of dishes, from mac & cheese to spicy ethnic food.

