

# Chardonnay

## Wine description

This refreshing style of Chardonnay is made with a touch of oak for added complexity and richness. Melon, tropical fruit and citrus aromas, a rounded palate with butterscotch notes and prominent fruit flavours. A versatile wine that will complement virtually any food. Serve chilled.

#### Vineyards

The grapes for our ESSAY wines come from dry-land, bush vine vineyards grown on shale soils that give them distinctive flavour and texture. The vineyards are situated in the Agter-Paarl area and create a Chardonnay characteristic of this region.

## Vinification details

Sourced from two vineyards in the Agter-Paarl region. Grapes were hand harvested at full ripeness. After pressing and settling, the must was inoculated with South African yeast. 20% of the wine was fermented in small American oak barrels and matured for 6 months with stirring on the lees; the remaining wine was fermented in stainless steel tanks. After fermentation 80% of the wine was placed in stainless steel tanks, lying on the lees for 6 months with regular stirring to create richness and complexity. Before bottling the tank and barrel portions were blended together before the wine was fined and filtered.

Wine of Origin

Western Cape

## **Grape Source**

From two dry-land vineyards in Agter-Paarl

> Varietal Blend Chardonnay 100%