

Rustenberg Stellenbosch John X Merriman 2005

A classic vintage. The Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon were very typical of Rustenberg and will be long aging if cellared correctly. The 2005 sees a higher percentage of Petit Verdot which provides the palate with freshness and its natural acidity contributes to the very long finish of this wine. As usual, the aromatics are complex and typical of Rustenberg terroir. The wine will age beautifully and will continue to improve in the bottle.

variety : Merlot | 54% Merlot, 33% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Petit Verdot, 4% Cabernet Franc, 3% Malbec

winery : Rustenberg Wines

winemaker : Adi Badenhorst

wine of origin : Stellenbosch

analysis : alc : 14.47 % vol rs : 2.1 g/l pH : 3.58 ta : 5.7 g/l

type : Red **style :** Dry **wooded**

pack : Bottle **closure :** Cork

92 Points - Steve Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, March/April 2009 Online Edition 2008 International Wine Challenge - Silver Medal

2008 Old Mutual Trophy Awards - Silver Medal (84/100)

2008 Decanter Awards - Silver Medal

Voted Champion Bordeaux Blend at SA's Calyon Bordeaux Blend Challenge 2007

ageing : Up to 10 years from vintage.

in the vineyard : Situation: South-West slopes of the Simonsberg Mountain Stellenbosch

Altitude: 300 m

Distance from sea: ±25 km

Soil type: Decomposed Granite (Hutton), Oakleaf

Rootstock: R99, R110, R101-14

Age of vines: 7 - 24 Years

Trellising: Vertically shoot positioned

Pruning: 2 Node Spur pruning

Irrigation: Drip irrigated

about the harvest: The grapes were harvested in February and March 2005.

Grape analysis:

Acidity: 5.00 - 6.00 g/l

pH: 3.3 - 3.6

Sugar: 25° Balling

Yield: 6 - 6.5 t/ha

