

Land of Hope Reserve Chenin Blanc 2010

Chenin Blanc is South Africa's most versatile premium white grape, with unique qualities and flavours derived from this site. It combines the gregarious and personable side of Chenin's fruitiness with a thoughtful and serious mineral acidity, naturally bestowed by its site and providing ultimately an all-rounder Chenin - without a hint of it being a contrived crowd-pleaser. We firmly believe Chenin will begin to earn recognition as South Africa's most premium white varietal - with the Perdeberg (Swartland) and the Helderberg (Stellenbosch) leading the way.

variety : Chenin Blanc | 100% Chenin Blanc

winery : The Land of Hope

winemaker : _

wine of origin : Helderberg - Stellenbosch

analysis : alc : 13.0 % vol rs : 5.0 g/l pH : 3.59 ta : 5.9 g/l

type : White

pack : Bottle **closure :** Cork

ageing : This Chenin Blanc has immense personality, strength of character and the potential to mature well for a further 3 - 5 years.

in the vineyard : Rooted in wonderful decomposed granitic soils, this Chenin Blanc is from a single vineyard on an ocean-facing slope of the Helderberg Mountain in Stellenbosch. Entirely from old bush vines, with naturally low yields and deep root systems plunging into the granitic sub-rock. 2010 was a beautiful Chenin vintage - if characterised by yields of between 25 - 30% less than average. The uneven flowering in the spring and a summer with hot days (though often cool evenings), provided an unusual and shorter ripening season, although the retention of natural acidity and greater complexity of flavours somewhat paradoxically marked this vintage.

about the harvest: The grapes were all picked and sorted by hand.

in the cellar : The free run juice was fermented then matured on the lees in small Burgundian barrels for 11 months (only 1/5 new). Part of the pressing was whole bunch, the rest de-stemmed. The pressed juice was fermented and matured apart from the free-run. A small portion of tank fermented Chenin was added for the final blend, to enhance the fresh and mineral focus of the wine.

