

## De Wetshof Estate The Site Chardonnay 2023

Gravelly, mountain rock soil rich in limestone and with a high pH allow this single vineyard to develop elegant fruit flavours characteristic of a classic Chardonnay. A pronounced nuttiness leads to beguiling citrus flavours ending with a clean, zesty and elegant finish.

An extremely complex Chardonnay, this wine can be enjoyed with leg of lamb and other roasted red meat dishes, as well as with certain cheeses.

**variety** : Chardonnay | 100% Chardonnay

**winery** : De Wetshof Estate

**winemaker** : Peter de Wet

**wine of origin** : Robertson

**analysis** : alc : 13.71 % vol   rs : 1.8 g/l   pH : 3.34   ta : 6.9 g/l   va : 0.43 g/l   so2 : 30 mg/l   fso2 : 117 mg/l

**type** : White   **style** : Dry   **body** : Full   **taste** : Fragrant   **wooded**

**pack** : Bottle   **size** : 750ml   **closure** : Cork

2024 Michelangelo Awards - Double Gold

2024 Veritas Awards - Gold

**ageing** : The wine gains further character and an added dimension through bottle-maturation, and wine-lovers willing to wait for up to 10 years before opening this wine will be richly rewarded.

De Wetshof is a third generation wine estate in South Africa's Robertson Valley, where wine has been made for over 150 years. Here Danie de Wet, proprietor and cellar-master, is assisted by sons and co-owners Johann (viticulture and marketing) and Peter (winemaker). De Wetshof Estate is a pioneer of noble white wines in South Africa and has also introduced superior red cultivars to the Robertson Wine Valley.

On De Wetshof a firm belief prevails, namely that one cannot know where you are going unless you know where you have come from. This is why the history of De Wetshof's vineyards plays a profound role in determining present and future wine quality. Since the early 1970's meticulous records have been kept on each vineyard as to the plants' reaction to soil-types, irrigation and the vagaries of climate, as well as their development and progress over the years. Each vineyard is thus vinified separately during the wine-making process, the wine-makers having a clear understanding of what the fruit of each vineyard's labour is going to deliver during a specific year.

This commitment to discovering and determining the various terrains on De Wetshof, as well as an absolute focus on site-specific vineyard management and wine-making, has been an integral part of the De Wetshof ethos from the outset and remains a vital and non-negotiable aspect of all the Estate's wines.

### in the vineyard :

A specific selection of Chardonnay imported from Burgundy, the home of the Chardonnay grape. The size of the vineyard is 2.55Ha and lies on a southern slope.

### Vineyard information

Age of the vines: 18 years

Vines per hectare: 4000

Rootstock: 110-14

Planting row: 2,4m x 1m

Soil pH: 7,7 - 8,3

Trellising style: 6 Wire fence system cordon with spur pruning

Yield: 4 - 5 tons per hectare



**about the harvest:** The grapes are picked in the coolness of morning to capture the fruit's beautiful rich complexities including a pronounced nuttiness and strong citrus notes, consistent expressions of this exceptional vineyard.

**in the cellar :** After de-stemming, pressing and overnight-settling the juice is racked-off from the sediment and moved into French oak barrels specially selected by Monsieur Christian Radoux to enhance the nutty and citrus fruit flavours from this vineyard. The wine remains on the lees after fermentation with the barrels being kept under controlled temperatures. Weekly stirring (boutonnage) of the lees ensures maximum flavours are released. After some months the wines are racked-off the lease and returned to the barrels to complete wood-maturation before bottling.

Barrel maturation: 12 months

## De Wetshof Estate

Robertson

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[www.dewetshof.com](http://www.dewetshof.com)