

Simonsig Rainwater Extra Reserve Verdelho 2005 (Limited Release)

The Simonsig Rainwater Extra Reserve reveals aromas of roasted almonds, caramel, burnt toffee, and coffee, with subtle notes of frankincense and nutty marzipan. The palate is weighty yet fresh, with a beautifully caramelised walnut-amber hue. Layers of complexity unfold gradually, showcasing the wine's age, elegance, and balanced spirit warmth. It is dry-styled yet rich, with excellent integration between sweetness, acidity, and alcohol. Exceptionally resilient due to oxidative aging; can be cellared for decades and will continue to evolve in bottle.

Serve slightly chilled at 13–15°C in a small Port-style glass. Ideal as a pre-dinner aperitif or paired with cheeses, roasted nuts, or South African favourites like Malva pudding.

variety : Verdelho | 100% Verdelho

winery : Simonsig Family Vineyards

winemaker : .

wine of origin : Stellenbosch

analysis : alc : 21.99 % vol rs : 92.8 g/l pH : 3.67 ta : 6.9 g/l

type : Dessert **style :** Sticky **body :** Full **taste :** Fragrant

pack : Bottle **size :** 500ml **closure :** Cork

Simonsig's journey with Verdelho began in 1995 when Frans Malan planted six rows after discovering the grape during a visit to Australia. These original vines, planted among Chardonnay, remain the oldest block of Verdelho in South Africa. Known for its delicate fruit profile and high acidity, Verdelho has since inspired various winemaking expressions on the estate.

in the cellar : In 2005, grapes were left to hang for five extra weeks, reaching 31.7° Balling in a hot, dry vintage that encouraged natural dehydration. After skin contact and stainless-steel fermentation, fortification occurred at 100 g/l residual sugar with no sulphur added. Aged for 17 years in seasoned oak barrels using the traditional sun-and-cellar method, where daily sun exposure drove oxidative development (Madeirisation). The result was a complex, Rainwater-style Extra Reserve.



Simonsig Family Vineyards

Stellenbosch

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