

Rustenberg John X Merriman 2000

Well rounded wine which will increase in complexity and character with bottle age as is customary of Rustenberg's red wines. Aromas of spice and red fruit balanced by fine, elegant tannins - a combination which is indicative of well managed vineyards and mature fruit.

variety : Merlot | 68% Merlot, 32% Cabernet Sauvignon

winery : Rustenberg Wines

winemaker : Adi Badenhorst

wine of origin : Stellenbosch

analysis : alc : 14.29 % vol rs : 1.3 g/l pH : 3.64 ta : 5.73 g/l

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

pack : Bottle **closure** : Cork

4½ Stars in Grape (SA) Magazine (October - December 2002)

89 Points - Wine Spectator Weekly (14 August 2003)

Silver medal - International Wine Challenge 2003

ageing : Up to 10 years.

in the vineyard : Situation: South West slopes of the Simonsberg

Altitude: 300 m

Distance from sea: ± 25 km

Soil Type: Hutton (Decomposed Granite)

Rootstock: Richter 99 + 110

Age of vines: 8 - 14 Years

Trellising: Vertically shoot positioned

Pruning: 2 Node spur pruning

about the harvest: The grapes were harvested February - March 2000.

in the cellar : Traditional fermentation with regular oxidative pumpovers was employed to maximise colour and assist in tannin polymerisation, enabling the grapes to express the Rustenberg terroir. Malolactic fermentation and maturation in French barriques followed and the wine was bottled 17 months later. The wine was bottled in November 2001.

Oak used: All French oak, new and used barrels

