La Buena Vida.be
VINOS DE VITICULTOR

La Buena Vida
The Reference for wines from Spain

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Rotsbank 2025

The Sadie Family Wines - 75 cl.



The Rotsbank vineyard is located in the Paardeberg in the Aprilskloof on a rock shelf that barely has 30 – 50 cm of soil in most parts. It is incredible to think that this vineyard survives year after year. Many of the roots in the soil have found cracks in this rock shelf, and the limited natural growth of this vineyard makes for incredibly concentrated fruit. Since 2008 we have wanted to produce a Swartland Chenin Blanc, but the 2022 vintage materialised as the first after we were very fortunate to purchase the vineyard.

Wine style:
Atlantic, powerful and mineral

Assembly
Chenin Blanc (100%)

Region:
Westkaap

Wine estate:
The Sadie Family Wines

Biological

Vinification
After harvesting, the grapes are placed in a cooling room to reduce the temperature since the average temperatures are often 35 degrees or more – pressing warm grapes comes with its series of problems. We then do whole bunch pressing, a process that takes about 3 hours, during which time there is a margin of settling of the juice in the collecting tank. The juice is then transferred to two old foudres for fermentation. The wine is left in a cask on the fermentation lees for the first 12 months, and we bottle from the lees. Only about 60ppm of sulphur is added two weeks before bottling.

Trial analysis
The 2025 Rotsbank immediately opens with intense mineral, saline and gunflint characteristics. The wine shows slightly less reduction than usual, while still maintaining its linear style and the signature “blue steel” expression of Chenin Blanc. This vintage is more concentrated and slightly richer in texture than usual, yet it remains restrained and elegant rather than excessive. The wine benefits from some space in the glass to fully reveal its complexity.

Storage potential
Drink as from: 2026
Best moment: 2030-2032
Until: 2036

Description domain

After having worked for several years in the Priorat and having founded Terroir al Limit there, Eben Sadie returned to his South African roots. As he said himself: "Winemakers have to make wine in the region where they were born. This is where they know best the terroir".