La Buena Vida.be
VINOS DE VITICULTOR

La Buena Vida
The Reference for wines from Spain

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Rotsbank 2022

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.

Assembly
Chenin Blanc (100%)

Region:
Westkaap

Wine estate:
The Sadie Family Wines

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
This 2022 Rotsbank bottling displays flinty, almost crushed eggshell aromas with grapefruit and more tropical aspects once the initial minerality of the site gave way in the aromas. The wine is incredibly concentrated on the aromatics; the same concentration follows through on the palate. The tannins have massive tension, and the wine's substantial acidity and dry finish suggest a wine that will only benefit much from time in the bottle. This very restrained and firm wine will pair exceptionally well with shellfish.

Storage potential
Drink as from : 2024
Best moment : 2029-2031
Until : 2034

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".