



## DeMorgenzon Reserve Chardonnay 2015

<b>Winemaker</b>	Carl van der Merwe
<b>Varietal blend</b>	100% Chardonnay
<b>Appellation</b>	Stellenbosch
<b>Alcohol content</b>	14.1%
<b>TA</b>	6.3 g/l
<b>pH</b>	3.28
<b>RS</b>	3.5 g/l

### VINEYARDS

Vertical shoot positioned vineyards on weathered granite mid-slopes benefit from cool morning sunlight and moderating sea breezes off False Bay. Yields are typically low to moderate and grapes are very concentrated with good levels of natural acidity.

### VINTAGE

2015 was a very early season with early flowering dates followed by rapid ripening in the early part of the summer. Weather conditions during the ripening period of the Chardonnay were cool to begin with, with very warm conditions close to harvest, necessitating a rapid harvest decision. Fruit quality was perfect with no disease. Optimally ripe fruit with no raisins were harvested around 23° balling.

### VINIFICATION AND MATURATION

The grapes were hand-picked and whole bunch pressed. Juice was transferred to French oak barrels with minimal settling. Fermentation occurred naturally in French oak barrels of which 40% was new. About 35% of the volume completed Malolactic fermentation during an 11 month ageing on the gross lees. The wine was bottled with minimal stabilization and clarified without filtration.

### TASTING NOTES

Golden with green hues. Hot toasted brioche with zesty marmalade. Backbone of lime and lemongrass with floral notes of honeysuckle and frangipani on the palate. Warm, rich vanilla and a creamy almond finish.

### AWARDS & ACCOLADES

#### 2015

Platinum; Best in Show  
*Decanter World Wine Awards 2016*

Regional Trophy and Gold medal winner  
*International Wine Challenge 2016*

96 points *Tim Aktin MW's South Africa Report 2016*

Platter's 5 Stars *Platter's Wine Guide 2017*

95 points *Prescient Chardonnay Report 2016*

#### 2014

93 points *Tim Atkin MW's South African Report 2015*

91+ points *Stephen Tanzer's Wine Cellar*

#### 2013

Platter's White Wine of the Year  
*Platter's Guide 2015*

Platter's 5 stars *Platter's Guide 2015*

92 points Neal Martin of *Robert Parker's Wine Advocate 2014*

Top 10 South African Wines of 2014  
*Jamie Goode*



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