

Vergelegen Chardonnay Reserve 2022

Vergelegen, one of South Africa's most iconic estates, has established itself as a benchmark for quality and elegance. Located in the renowned Stellenbosch wine region, Vergelegen is celebrated for crafting wines of exceptional depth, complexity, and sophistication. The Vergelegen Chardonnay Reserve 2022 embodies this legacy, offering an exquisite expression of the Chardonnay grape.



General Information

- **Producer:** Vergelegen
- **Appellation:** Stellenbosch, South Africa
- **Varietal Composition:** 100% Chardonnay
- **Vintage:** 2022
- **Alcohol Content:** 13.5%
- **Volume:** 750ml



Vineyard and Terroir

- **Location:** The grapes are all estate-grown and selected from three vineyards: Rooiland 12, Rooiland 13, and the Lower Schaapenberg vineyard.
- **Soil Type:** Pinedene, Hutton & Clovelly soils (all Oxidic group).



Winemaking

- **Harvest:** Grapes were handpicked at optimal ripeness.
- **Vinification:** Whole bunch pressed with no skin contact, racked into 30% new French oak barrels and 70% second and third-fill barrels for alcoholic fermentation. Wild/spontaneous fermentation was initiated, followed by pure yeast strain after 7 days. Only 30% of barrels underwent malolactic fermentation. The wine matured on the gross lees for 8 months before bottling.



Tasting Notes

- **Appearance:** Attractive lemony yellow-green color.
- **Aroma:** A complex nose with notes of citrus, white peach, pineapple, spice, citrus blossoms, apricot, and buttered toast.
- **Palate:** Long and elegant with a lively minerality.



Food Pairing

- **Recommended Pairings:** Pairs well with seafood risotto, kingklip, or grilled salmon.



Sustainable Practices and Certifications

- Vergelegen is a pioneer in sustainability and biodiversity efforts:
- Awarded the Sustainable Wine Tourism Practices prize in the 2024 Best of Wine Tourism Awards, demonstrating its commitment to eco-friendly winemaking.
- The estate was the first South African Biodiversity and Wine Initiative Champion in 2005, with sustainability remaining central to all activities. Vergelegen's significant alien vegetation clearing project culminated in a 1900-hectare reserve, granted the same protection status as the Kruger National Park.
- They actively support Fairtrade, reduce carbon emissions, practice land conservation by keeping over 2,000 hectares free from agricultural activity, and are a participant in the Cape Leopard Trust.



Awards and Recognition

- The Vergelegen Chardonnay Reserve has received high praise in previous vintages, with awards such as 92 points from Tim Atkin and 93 points (4½ stars) from Platter's Guide .

VERGELEGEN



De Vries Premium Wines

Producer's Notes

The Vergelegen Chardonnay Reserve 2022 represents the estate's dedication to crafting premium wines, offering a refined balance of freshness, complexity, and oak influence that showcases the Chardonnay grape's full potential.