



## David & Nadia

The David & Nadia Skaliekop Chenin Blanc is a masterful expression of Swartland terroir, showcasing the elegance and complexity of old vine Chenin Blanc.



David & Nadia

*Wine of origin Swartland*



## Skaliekop Chenin Blanc 2021

Swartland, South Africa

### Region and Vineyards

**David & Nadia Skaliekop Chenin Blanc** hails from the **Swartland** region, an area renowned for its rugged beauty and dynamic winemaking culture. Situated in the Western Cape of South Africa, Swartland is characterized by its warm climate, diverse soils, and a pioneering spirit among its winemakers. The region has garnered acclaim for producing wines with distinctive character and a sense of place.

The **Skaliekop** vineyard, from which this Chenin Blanc is sourced, is a particularly special site. The name "Skaliekop" translates to "shale hill," indicative of the **shale-rich soils** that define this vineyard. These vines were planted in **1985** in very shallow shale soils in the Paardeberg, an area typically dominated by granite. This anomaly in soil composition contributes significantly to the wine's unique character. The region's challenging warm climate and dryland farming methods further enhance the concentration and intensity of the fruit.

### Winemaking

**David & Nadia Skaliekop Chenin Blanc** is crafted from **100% Chenin Blanc grapes**, a varietal that thrives in the Swartland's climate and soil. The winemaking process is focused on minimal intervention to allow the true character of the vineyard to shine through.

After careful hand-harvesting, which took place over three separate picking dates in mid to late February, the grapes undergo a gentle pressing to extract the purest juice. Fermentation occurs naturally with indigenous yeasts, enhancing the wine's complexity and authenticity. The wines from the different pickings were aged separately before being blended and bottled at the end of the year. The wine is aged in a combination of **old oak barrels and concrete tanks**, adding subtle texture while preserving the vibrant fruit flavors. The total production of this vintage was **2,286 bottles**.

Alcohol :12,50 %

Composition: 100% Chenin Blanc



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# Skaliekop Chenin Blanc 2021

## Tasting Notes

- **Color:** The wine presents a **brilliant pale gold hue**, reflecting its purity and vibrancy.
- **Aroma:** On the nose, there are **aromas of white peach, quince, and citrus blossoms**, interwoven with hints of wet stone and subtle honeyed nuances.
- **Palate:** The palate is both **rich and focused**, offering flavors of **ripe pear, lemon zest, and green apple**. The wine is beautifully balanced, with a core of lively acidity and a long, mineral-driven finish.

## Did you know?

**Did you know?** The Skaliekop vineyard qualifies for the **Certified Heritage Vineyards (CHV) seal** and forms part of the **Old Vine Project (OVP)**, recognizing the significance and quality of the vineyard's old vines. These certifications highlight the vineyard's historical and viticultural importance in South Africa.

## Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Grilled Sea Bass with Lemon and Herbs:** The wine's acidity and mineral notes complement the delicate flavors of the fish, while its citrus elements enhance the dish's brightness.
- **Roasted Chicken with Thyme and Garlic:** The richness of the chicken is balanced by the wine's vibrant acidity, and the herbal notes of the dish resonate with the wine's aromatic profile.
- **Goat Cheese Salad with Honeyed Walnuts:** The creamy, tangy goat cheese pairs beautifully with the wine's fresh fruit flavors and its hint of honeyed complexity, while the walnuts add a delightful textural contrast.



### Robert Parker (RP) : 94 Points (2021)

*Displaying a pale golden color and sourced from eight different vineyards, the 2021 Chenin Blanc offers a fine mineral sensation from being made partly in concrete eggs, while it expresses soft lees and subtly spiced essences from being rested in oak. Light to medium-bodied, The wine offers lovely notions of citrus blossom, sweet citrons and dusty cherry skin. With a delicate nature, this medium-framed wine is bright and complex while delivering a thought-provoking, food-friendly finish. Bravo!*



### James Suckling (JS) : 93 Points (2021)

*Aromas of lemon curd, sweet thyme, white tea and wet stone. Medium-bodied with supple texture. Fresh and bright, but soft and rounded with charming nuance. So elegant. From bush vines planted in 1986.*





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**Decanter (DCT) : 94 Points (2017)**

*Meaning 'shale hill', this single vineyard is an anomaly amid the Paardeberg granite, but it gives a focussed, mineral line to this stunning wine. Tiny yields from dry-farmed bush vines planted in 1985 deliver huge concentration of apple, melon, tangerine and white flowers. The wine has a lean, direct palate with a delicious, raspy, nutty texture and bracing acidity. It has superb energy, purity and vibrancy. Just 1,863 bottles made. Drinking Window 2019 - 2026 (4/2019)*



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