



Glen Carlou

This distinctive Chardonnay is crafted from a 35-year-old vineyard, yielding a wine with rich citrus, stone fruit, and spice layered with a refined mineral character from the quartz-rich soils.



Quartz Stone Chardonnay 2023

, South Africa

Region and Vineyards

Glen Carlou is located in the **Simonsberg-Paarl region** of South Africa's Western Cape, known for its varied slopes and soils, which are meticulously nurtured for optimal expression. The **Quartz Stone vineyard**, the source of this single-vineyard Chardonnay, is situated on the northern foothills of Simonsberg, where granite-based soils intermixed with quartz fragments define the terroir. This unique soil composition, along with the **35-year-old, low-yielding vines**, contributes intense and concentrated flavors to the wine.

Since 2016, Glen Carlou has been under South African family ownership, with a focus on sustainable viticulture and replanting initiatives. Drought-resistant rootstocks and modern clones have been introduced to enhance the estate's resilience, reflecting Glen Carlou's commitment to preserving and amplifying each vineyard's unique potential.

Winemaking

The Quartz Stone Chardonnay 2022 is crafted with precision, beginning with **hand-harvesting in the cool morning hours** to maintain the fruit's freshness and complexity. After hand-sorting, the whole clusters are gently pressed, and only the first **55% of free-run juice** is used. The juice is then naturally fermented, with **90% aged in new French oak barriques** and **10% in a Quartz Stone Nomblot egg-shaped tank**. This careful approach preserves both purity and texture, enhancing the wine's layered profile.

The wine rests on gross lees for **12 months**, adding depth and a subtle creaminess. Individual barrels are meticulously selected for the final blend, which is bottled and sealed with a premium natural cork for optimal quality and preservation.

Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Pale gold with a slight greenish hue.
- **Aroma:** Complex aromas of citrus, white peach, fragrant spices, and buttered toast.
- **Palate:** Lively and layered, with notes of lime, lemon, green apple, and stone fruit. A discreet minerality from the quartz soil lends further dimension, leading to a long and refined finish.

Alcohol :13,50 %

Composition: 100% Chardonnay



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Did you know?

The Quartz Stone vineyard is named for its **quartz-rich soil**, which imparts a distinctive minerality to the wine, giving it an extra layer of complexity and elegance. This single-vineyard Chardonnay showcases Glen Carlou's attention to terroir and is sealed with a premium-grade natural cork to ensure zero taint and preserve the wine's quality.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Pan-seared scallops with lemon butter:** The citrus and mineral notes of the wine complement the delicate flavors of scallops.
- **Roast chicken with garlic and herbs:** The wine's layered complexity and hint of oak enrich the savory flavors of roasted chicken.
- **Lobster risotto:** The creamy texture of the wine enhances the richness of lobster and the smooth, savory flavors of risotto.
- **Aged Gouda:** The wine's acidity and minerality balance the nutty, caramel notes of aged Gouda.



Robert Parker (RP) : 90 Points (2015)

The 2015 Quartz Stone Chardonnay offers attractive aromas of citrus peel, mango and subtle brioche scents that are neatly embroidered with the oak. The palate is well balanced with a fine thread of acidity, plenty of tightly-wound tropical fruit with touches of Chinese five spice and white pepper on the sustained finish. It's one of those Chardonnay's that you'll plug back because it's so moreish! Very fine.

