

Bateleur Chardonnay 2017

DE WETSHOF, THE ROBERTSON VALLEY, SOUTH AFRICA



HARVEST & VINTAGE NOTES

The Bateleur (*Terathopius ecaudatus*) is one of Africa's most majestic birds of prey. This wine was named after an eagle that is rare in both its beauty and occurrence as a tribute to the power and grace of a creature synonymous with our great continent.

The Bateleur Vineyard is one of the oldest Chardonnay vineyards in South Africa. It was planted in July 1987 from a very special selection of plant material which had been imported from Burgundy some years before. The size of the vineyard is 3,51Ha on which 13,668 vines are planted. Gravel soils originating from mountain rock rich in limestone and clay with a high pH allow this single vineyard Chardonnay to portray a spectrum of flavors framed in elegance and complexity—typical features of a classic Chardonnay.

The grapes are picked in the coolness of the morning, then destemmed, pressed, and settled overnight. The juice is then racked off from the sediment and moved into French oak barrels. After fermentation, the wine remains on the lees under controlled temperatures, with weekly battonnage. After some months the wines are racked off the lees and returned to barrels to age for 12 months.

An elegantly muscular wine. Citrus and pear-drop notes are complemented by an intriguing nuttiness, with elegant citrus on the finish. The Bateleur improves in dimension and complexity with age and under the correct storage conditions it can mature in the bottle for many years.



Wine Spectator

Wine Spectator, March 2020



Decanter

GOLD, Decanter World Wine Awards, January 2020



Tim Atkin

Tim Atkin MW, January 2019



**DE WETSHOF
ESTATE**

WINEMAKERS: Danie & Peter De Wet

GRAPES: 100% Chardonnay

AGE OF VINES: 27 years

ALCOHOL: 12.53%

RESIDUAL SUGAR: 1.9 g/L

PH: 3.27

TOTAL ACIDITY: 6.9 g/L

TOTAL SULPHUR: 61



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