

IXIA

BY ARISTEA



DRAWING THE BEST FROM THIS UNIQUE TERROIR
HAND IN HAND WITH NATURE

IXIA CHARDONNAY VINTAGE 2020

Born from the ashes and found only in Madagascar and the Cape, the Aristea flower flourishes on land ravaged by fire, opening for just one day each year.

It also symbolises the struggle, passion and dedication required to produce every new vintage of our special collection of handmade wines. Wines that express a sense of place, crafted with skill and adventure by friends united in a single purpose: to capture the elegance and spirit of South Africa.

HARVEST DETAILS

The 2020 yields were substantially greater than in the previous year, thanks to good reserves being accumulated in the post-harvest period, rain during critical berry growth stages and moderate climate throughout the growing season. Overall the quality was superb and harvest commenced 2 weeks earlier than usual, however the unexpected announcement of the COVID-19 lockdown from 26 March 2020 created challenging conditions to finish off wine production around South Africa.

WINEMAKING

The fruit for this wine was carefully harvested by hand into small lug boxes and then stored overnight at 5°C in a cold room. The following morning half of the fruit was de-stemmed and crushed. After settling, 25% of the juice was racked into barrel without the addition of any yeast for natural fermentation and the remaining juice inoculated before racking into barrels for alcoholic fermentation. Malolactic fermentation took place naturally in all the barrels and the wine was aged for 10 months in 10% new, 35% 2nd-fill and 55% 3rd-fill French oak barrels with regular bâtonnage and stirring of the lees during the maturation period.

TECHNICAL INFO

Grapes Origin:	W.O. Stellenbosch	Alcohol:	13%
Vineyard Yield:	6 tons / hectare	Residual Sugar:	3.6 g/l
Harvest Date:	15/02/21	Total Acid:	6.0 g/l
Production:	3,960 bottles	pH:	3.47

TASTING NOTES

IXIA 2020 Chardonnay shows a pale green-gold in colour with a delectable hint of flinty citrus combined with butterscotch on the nose that shows of great restraint of power. The very subtle use of French oak adds enticing vanilla and spice, while the palate expands outwards with a richness and complexity that lasts long into the finish. A wine that is already drinking well now but will also benefit more by gentle ageing.

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