# Stellenbosch 

R E S E R V E

## Helderberg <br> SOUTH EAST ASPECT

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Tropical fruit, texture and natural acidity from the Atlantic Ocean influence.

Devon Valley
south east aspect

Ripe citrus and mineral texture from upper vineyard. Lean lemon and lime with bright acidity from lower vineyard.


## Chardonnay 2023

MOEDERKERK
Wine of Origin Stellenbosch

## THE BUILDING:

The beautiful Moederkerk is an unpretentious yet prominent example of Gothic Revival architecture. Located in the heart of Stellenbosch and surrounded by oaks, its familiar steeple watches over residents going about their daily business. The clean, striking beauty of the 'Mother Church' resembles the bright, elegant Chardonnay.

## THE VINTAGE:

A dry winter season with well below average rainfall. Cold units were made up for in later winter and early spring. Slightly earlier budding, but good, even budding and flowering with an average yield. December brought a lot of rain, lowering temperatures and replenishing water reserves. Hot weather in early January encouraged ripening, becoming more moderate with cool nights to retain acidity. A good vintage for white varieties, with a lot of rain during the month of March making it a challenging vintage for reds.

## WINEMAKER'S NOTES:

Grapes are hand harvested then $100 \%$ whole bunch pressed. $75 \%$ of the wine is fermented in oak barrels and the remainder in stainless steel tanks. Lees stirring is performed once every three weeks, and partial malolactic fermentation is allowed, to add texture and character to the wine. Maturation takes place for six months in French oak barrels, using $10 \%$ new oak, $20 \%$ second fill, and $70 \%$ seasoned oak.

## TASTING NOTES:

Indulgent aromas of jasmine, fresh pear, lemon meringue and a hint of toast. Soft and smooth on the palate, with balanced acidity and medium body. Finely textured with flavours of lemon, winter melon, butter and a hint of vanilla.

| Alcohol | 13.36\% |
| :---: | :---: |
| Acidity | $5.8 \mathrm{~g} / 1$ |
| RS | $2.1 \mathrm{~g} / 1$ |
| pH | 3.40 |

