



2012 John B
Sauvignon released

The 2012 John B Sauvignon Blanc was released on 29 February. It is the first time Rietvallei Estate released a new vintage this early in the year. Sharing the spot with one neighbor, this is also the first 2012 vintage wine to hit the South African market.

"I've gone out of my way this year to offer you our freshest Sauvignon Blanc much earlier than usual. Due to its freshness, the wine is abundant in fruit flavours and perfect to enjoy right now", says Kobus Burger, sixth generation winemaker on Rietvallei.

The John B Sauvignon Blanc is a wine to enjoy at any occasion. It is characterized by its fruitiness, well-balanced acidity and long-lasting aftertaste. Perfect to pair with any seafood dish and light meals.

The 2012 vintage should hit the shelves soon, so look out for it at your local supermarket. Those that can't wait can get it from the Estate. Also feel free to place your order from [our website](#) , we deliver anywhere in South Africa.

At the 19th annual Chardonnay du Monde® (Chardonnay's of the World competition), held on 7 to 10 March 2012 in France, Rietvallei Special Select Chardonnay 2011 was awarded a gold medal. It is one of only three golds awarded to all South African Chardonnays entered in this competition.

The Chardonnay is made from a single vineyard called "Die Kop" planted on the highest hill on the estate. The vines face northwest and were established in 1996 in rich calcareous soil.

The selection process for this special cuvée already started with the identification of the specific vineyard and working at it with special care from pruning right through to harvesting ensuring a low yield (approximately 8 tons per hectare) and premium quality.

Another GOLD at
Chardonnay du Monde



In the cellar the wine fermented and matured in French oak barrels for six months. After maturation each barrel was tasted, scored and rated and only the finest were selected for this special release. The wine was then further matured on the fine lees for another three months before bottling in December 2011.

This is truly a selection of Rietvallei's finest.



2012 Harvest
Report



"Although we are still harvesting with approximately three weeks left to go, I think the 2012 harvest will be remembered as a much-needed *good* one during a very tight period in the industry. Good in both quality and quantity.

It is a sad time for me when the fun parts, which are harvesting and wine making, are almost over because the next chance I'll get to try and perfect my skills as a winemaker is 10 months from now. After harvest all efforts go into selling the wine which is truly the hardest part and not nearly as much fun as making it.

We will also make history this year with the release of another special cuvee in the next month or two. All will be revealed soon, so stay in touch."



Kobus Burger
WINEMAKER



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