

GOAT

GREATEST OF ALL TIME

CHENIN BLANC 2026

WINEMAKER: Andri Le Roux APPELLATION: Paarl CULTIVAR: 100% Chenin Blanc AGE OF VINES: 49 and 42 years old

Could the original also be the greatest of all time? In 1655, when Jan van Riebeeck planted the first imported vine cuttings on Cape soil, Chenin Blanc was one of the chosen few cultivars that would form the foundation for an entire industry. Had he known then that this noble grape would rise from relative obscurity to prized showpiece, more than three centuries later?

Long known as Steen by local vintners, Chenin Blanc gained a reputation as a dependable workhorse due to its incredible versatility. Indeed it has traditionally been used for applications as diverse as brandy making, dry and sweeter styles, sparkling and still wines, even blends. But evolving in the 21st century, Chenin Blanc has proved itself capable of producing world-class varietal wines, particularly from characterful old vines. It has reinvented itself to a pedigreed stallion, delivering sought-after wines of great depth and complexity. Staking a solid claim as the G.O.A.T.

We think Jan might have known way back then. After all, a seasoned navigator charts a plan that can go the distance, mindful of the quality tools and resolve required to reach the destination. Legend has it that he was an eternal optimist, who always looked on the bright side. He would probably revel in the Chenin Blanc story, knowing that endurance ultimately reaps glory.

SUITABILITY FOR VEGETARIANS OR VEGANS

This is a vegan-friendly wine, suitable for both vegetarians and vegans.

WINE ANALYSIS:

Alc. by vol: 14.01%

RS: 2.6 g/l

TA: 5.9 g/l

pH: 3.36



THE VINTAGE

Though the 2026 harvest produced slightly below-average volumes, the dry conditions of late summer worked in the vineyard's favour, yielding grapes of outstanding quality and balanced sugar levels. Rich concentration, deep colour and vibrant acidity suggest a vintage destined to produce exceptional wines.

THE VINEYARDS

The grapes were harvested from 41 and 48-year-old bush vines in the Paarl. The soil consists of mostly decomposed granite that's well suited for Chenin Blanc vineyards in dryland conditions. No irrigation was given in the vineyard, and the vines rely only on natural rainfall. Small berry clusters form due to the natural balance in the vines that provides good natural acidity and concentrated fruit flavours.

WINEMAKING

The grapes were hand-picked in the early morning. After de-stemming, they received three hours of skin contact. The juice was clarified before fermentation and great care was taken to ensure that only clear juice was used for the fermentation. To ensure fruit purity, 90% of the wine was fermented in stainless steel tanks at cold temperatures and the remaining 10% of the wine was fermented in 500-litre French oak barrels. This natural, barrel-fermented component contributes to the wine's complexity and mouthfeel. Lastly, the wine was aged on the lees for six months before bottling to enhance mouthfeel.

FOOD PAIRING

Enjoy this complex, fresh wine as an aperitif or paired with summer favourites such as seafood paella, creamy pasta, or pizza.

AGEING POTENTIAL

Ready to be enjoyed now with the potential to age for two years.

TASTING NOTE

White pear, quince, and ripe tropical flavours on the nose. A rich palate with fresh acidity and hints of lemon and citrus.