

ALVI'S DRIFT

# ALBERTUS VILJOEN ICON RANGE CHARDONNAY 2019

Star-bright and pale-leaf gold in colour with a youthful, lime-green rim, this complex wine offers beguiling aromas of lemon cream, honey melon, pear and vanilla – with just a hint of toasted hazelnut. Lush, ripe fruit follow through on the palate with an impeccable, velvety tannin-and-acid balance, followed by a long-lingering, fruity finish.

## ON THE VINES

With an ideal Mediterranean microclimate, an abundance of soil diversity and water from the life-giving Breede River, the Alvi's Drift vineyards are ideally positioned for producing remarkable wines of singular complexity and character.

Harvested from our very best, older Alvi's Drift vineyards, the Chardonnay grapes for this wine were grown in the limestone-rich soils found on the banks of the Breede River. The 2019 vintage was notable for its more-moderate-than-usual temperatures during the growth and ripening stages, which led to a larger crop that yielded smaller berries which were more intense in flavour.

## IN THE CELLAR

To create this wine, Chardonnay grapes are carefully selected for their unique characteristics from our prime, well-established Alvi's Drift vineyards. After pressing, grape juice is 100% barrel fermented in both new and used French and Burgundian oak, with wild yeast fermentation applied.

After alcoholic and malolactic fermentation, the wine is barrel-matured for 12 months, with regular bâtonnage applied. After maturation, wine from each barrel is individually tasted before blending, in order to showcase the character and complexity of both terroir and vintage.



## CULTIVAR INFORMATION

100% Chardonnay

## ANALYSIS

Alcohol:	13.3%
Residual Sugar:	4.4 g/l
Acidity:	6.7 g/l
pH:	3.2

## PAIRING SUGGESTION

This wine is a wonderful companion to roast duck, fish terrine as well as duck or fish pâté. It will also complement a pork rilette, roasted quail with a herb-butter sauce and creamy, mature Brie served with fresh baguette.

## HERITAGE

In 1928, our family patriarch, Albertus Viljoen Van Der Merwe – “Alvi” to his friends – established a farm south of the town of Worcester, South Africa. Alvi's son, Bertie, started wine production on the family farm and today the award-winning Alvi's Drift wines are created by winemaker Alvi Van Der Merwe, Oupa Alvi's grandson and namesake.

Our Albertus Viljoen Icon range showcases the best of our harvest, full-bodied, barrel-fermented wines of outstanding character and complexity.

## AWARDS

2020 Double Gold NWC & Top 100 |  
2021 Gold Catavinum |  
2021 Gold Sommelier's Choice Awards

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