

the
Verandah
PORT ELIZABETH - SOUTH AFRICA
Our Wine List

Diners Club Diamond Award Winner: 2018

Diners Club Platinum Award Winner: 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019, 2022

Diners Club Gold Award Winner: 2014

DINERS CLUB WINE LIST RATING AND AWARDS

A Diners Club Winelist Award recognises the planning, passion and thought that the restaurant has put into creating a wine list that compliments its menu. This recognition is prestigious for the restaurant and an invitation to their patrons to sit back and enjoy a beautiful pairing of fine wines and food.



Please note that a table of 8 guests or larger will be subject to a 10% service charge.

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<i>Pinot Noir is a red-wine grape variety of the species Vitis vinifera.</i>	
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HOW TO TASTE WINE

Tasting wine should always be fun and should never be taken too seriously, but you can make it more enjoyable by having a better understanding of what you should be looking for?

LOOK



Have a look at your glass and judge the colour and clarity of the wine. Is it vibrant or dull? Cloudy or clear? What colours can you detect? Tilt the glass and look at the edge of the wine, can you detect a tinge of another colour?

SMELL



Give your glass a good swirl and stick your nose inside. Think about the different aromas you're taking in, do you smell berries, oak, flowers or a combination of all three? How many different aromas complex and interesting or simple and dull? Most importantly, are the aromas pleasant?

TASTE



Sip your glass of wine. What mouthfeel sensations can you detect? How long does the flavour last? How intense is the flavour? Do you taste the wine over your whole mouth or are there gaps? Is the wine balanced or does something stick out? Is the wine complex or simple?

REPEAT

Judge the wine over a whole glass, not just one sip. Let it evolve and tell its story.

AGE

You can tell a lot about a wine's age by looking at the colour. Older red wines have more brown and orange hues compared to younger reds. Older whites are generally darker and more golden compared to younger whites.

AROMA & FLAVOUR

All the flavours you enjoy are the aromas in the wine. When tasting wine you should try and identify the different types of aromas that are present and before long you will begin to learn the different types of aromas that you enjoy the most.

TASTE SENSATIONS

When you taste a wine you are looking for the different taste sensations caused by the wine. The different components should be balanced.

Astringency is the sensation that causes the moisture to be sucked out of your lips giving a puckering sensation. Tannin in red wines can cause astringency.

Residual sugar relates to the amount of sugar in a wine and can be detected on the tip of your tongue. A wine high in residual sugar causes a hot sensation on the tip of your tongue.

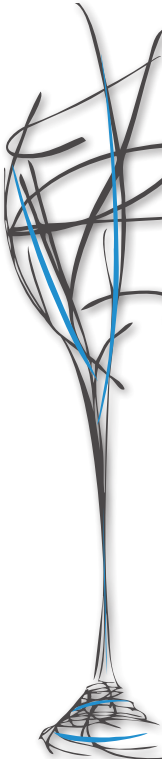
Alcohol can be detected on the middle of your tongue. A wine with unbalanced or high alcohol will cause a hot sensation in the middle of your tongue.

Acidity can be felt in the sides of your mouth. Wines that are high in acidity give a tart sensation, much like biting into a lemon.

When tasting wine you should also look at the complexity and length of flavour of the wine. Complexity refers to the number of different aromas and sensations you experience.

The best wines are highly complex, with each taste you find something new that keeps you coming back for more. To judge length of flavour, after you swallow the wine wait a short period of time and see if the flavour is still in your mouth. The best wines have fantastic length of flavour that lingers long after the wine has gone.

Source: www.ninety9bottles.com.au



WINE AND FOOD PAIRING RECOMMENDATIONS

Seafood

<i>Prawns</i>	<i>Sauvignon Blanc / Chardonnay / Chenin Blanc</i>
<i>Oysters</i>	<i>Champagne / Sparkling Wine / Chardonnay</i>
<i>Crayfish</i>	<i>Chardonnay / Semillon</i>
<i>Line Fish</i>	<i>Chardonnay / Semillon / Weisser Riesling / Chenin Blanc</i>
<i>Game Fish (Tuna, Marlin)</i>	<i>Pinot Noir / Zinfandel / Viognier</i>
<i>Calamari</i>	<i>Sauvignon Blanc / Pinot Grigio / Chenin Blanc</i>
<i>Fish Stew / Bouillabaisse</i>	<i>Pinot Grigio / Pinot Noir / Sangiovese</i>
<i>Paella</i>	<i>Rosé / Chenin Blanc</i>
<i>Mussels</i>	<i>Semillon / Chenin Blanc</i>

Poultry

<i>Chicken</i>	<i>Dry Rosé / Chardonnay / Viognier</i>
<i>Coq Au Vin</i>	<i>Pinot Noir / Pinotage / Cabernet Sauvignon</i>
<i>Quail</i>	<i>Merlot / Sangiovese / Pinot Noir</i>
<i>Duck</i>	<i>Weisser Riesling / Pinot Noir / Merlot / Shiraz</i>

Beef

Cabernet Sauvignon / Red Blends / Merlot / Petit Verdot / Malbec

Lamb

Cabernet Sauvignon / Shiraz / Pinotage / Red Blends

Pork

Wooded Chenin Blanc / Weisser Riesling / Chardonnay / Pinotage

Veal

Bordeaux Blend / Chardonnay / Pinot Grigio / Pinot Noir

Venison

Pinotage / Shiraz / Mourvedre / Rhone Blends

Dessert

<i>Hot</i>	<i>Port / Red Muscadel</i>
<i>Cold</i>	<i>Noble Late Harvest / White Muscadel / Special Late Harvest</i>

INSTANT ONLINE ACCESS TO WINE INFORMATION

Platter's vintages, producers and wine styles can be accessed on an iPhone that is available from the App Store with a GPS enabled map. To access this on your iPhone visit www.wine-oh.info - Platter's iPhone© App.



Star rating courtesy of John Platter South African Wines Guide to Cellars, Vineyards and Winemakers.

*****	Superlative. A classic
****(*)	Outstanding, Fine International Standard
****	Excellent
***(*)	Very Good, Promising
***	Characterful, Appealing
**(*)	Good, Everyday drinking
**	Pleasant drinking
()	Casual quaffing
●	Garagiste - defined by a winemaker who creates fine limited production wines

RECENT CAPE VINTAGES OF THE 21ST CENTURY - FROM PLATTERS SOUTH AFRICAN WINE GUIDE 2020

- 2021 A bumper crop, lauded as “exceptional” for reds and whites thanks to cool temperatures, unusually high rain fall and a late harvest, which helped ease stock holding pressure caused by 2020’s ban on exports and restrictions on local sales.
- 2020 Weather conditions were favorable in general and the bunch numbers looked promising early in the season, but windy conditions during the set and sensitive berry growth stages resulted in smaller berries and a lighter crop. The season was also characterized by great variation between and even within the same vineyard blocks in areas that experienced dry conditions.
- 2019 Again the draught affected the yields and on top of it some farmers experienced high winds in October, during bud-break, which caused a considerable loss of crop. Uneven ripening of the bunches meant extra work in the cellar, but overall the grape producers were happy with the quality of the grapes.
- 2018 Wine grape producers and cellars in South Africa were positive about the quality of the wines from the 2018 harvest, despite challenging conditions resulting in one of the smallest crops in more than a decade.
- 2017 The South African harvest is slightly larger than last year following a dry season. Dry conditions resulted in healthy vineyards and good flavour concentration.
- 2016 Despite challenging climate conditions and a significantly smaller crop, good quality wines produced and better harvest than expected.
- 2015 Rated as the Vintage of the century. High yields and quality fruits.
- 2014 Later, slightly smaller and unusually cool, among wettest pre-seasons in years. Seemingly lighter, less powerful wines; potential for fine concentration and elegance if picked judiciously.
- 2013 Biggest crop to date, moderate conditions yielded good to very good reds and whites, lighter alcohol levels.
- 2012 Unusually dry, hot January strained unirrigated vineyards; otherwise good to very good vintage for both reds and whites with lighter alcohol levels.
- 2011 Yet more variable than the last, impossible to generalise. As in 2010, producers track record should guide the buying and cellaring decision.



- 2010 A real test of the winegrowers savvy, and one of the toughest recent harvests to call. Be guided by producers track record.
- 2009 Perhaps one of the greatest vintages. Late, gruelling, but whites and reds both stellar.
- 2008 Long, wet, late and challenging but also unusually cool, favouring elegance in both reds and whites.
- 2007 Elegant, structured whites, smaller red-grape berries gave intense colour and fruit concentration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SUPPLIED WITH EACH WINE

Vintage year	The actual year of harvesting is indicated next to the name of the wine. Non Vintage means that the wine is a combination of harvests
Character	To assist selection, each wine has a character that will highlight the style of the wine: ie, dry.
Description	An overview of the wine and it's characteristics that define the tasting experience.

ILLUSTRATED SOUTH AFRICAN WINE REGIONS

WINEGROWING AREAS OF SOUTH AFRICA

WESTERN CAPE

COASTAL REGION

Districts:

- CAPE TOWN
- DARLING
- FRANSCHHOEK VALLEY
- LUTZVILLE VALLEY
- PAARL
- STELLENBOSCH
- SWARTLAND
- TULBAGH
- WELLINGTON

KLEIN KAROO

Districts:

- CALITZDORP
- LANGEBERG-GARCIA

CAPE SOUTH COAST

Districts:

- CAPE AGULHAS
- ELGIN
- OVERBERG
- PLETTENBERG BAY
- SWELLENDAM
- WALKER BAY

OLIFANTS RIVER

Districts:

- CITRUSDAL VALLEY
- CITRUSDAL MOUNTAIN

BREEDE RIVER VALLEY

Districts:

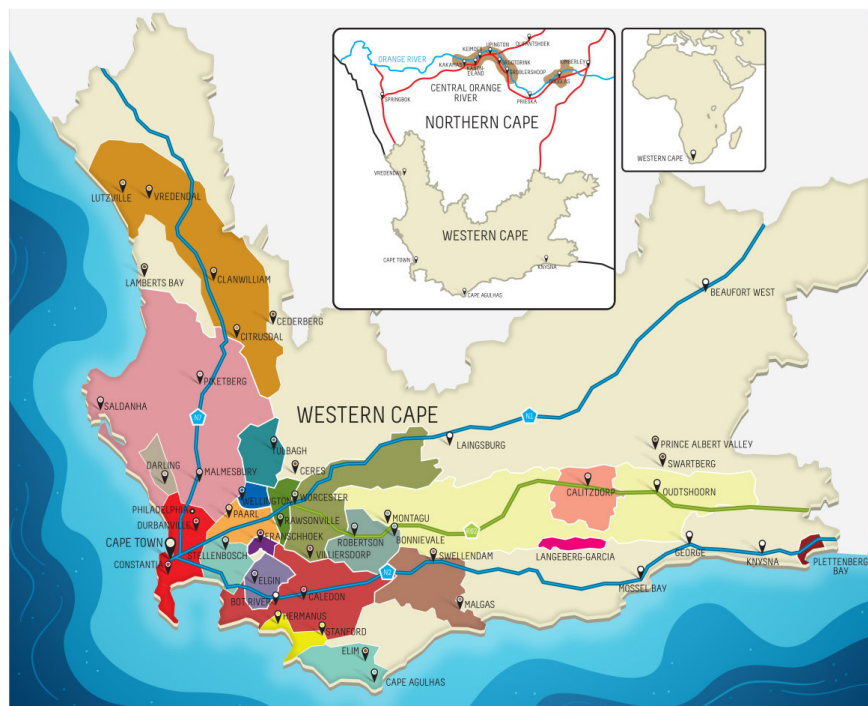
- BREEDEKLOOF
- ROBERTSON
- WORCESTER

WARDS NOT PART OF A REGION

- CEDERBERG
- CERES
- PRINCE ALBERT VALLEY
- SWARTBERG

NORTHERN CAPE

- CENTRAL ORANGE RIVER (District)



GOURMET TASTINGS

We also offer gourmet wine tastings, where our chef will create an exquisite 4-8 course dinner whereby each course will complement a carefully chosen wine. In addition, we also conduct Whisky and Chocolate Pairings as well as Vodka Tastings.

NOTES

Vintage Changes

Please note that vintage changes may render a particular wine unavailable which is out of our control. There will however, always be a comparable wine offered.

Corkage

Corkage is available at a cost of R60.00 per bottle (750ml) and R80.00 for Magnums or larger.

Note that a maximum of two bottles is permitted, thereafter a surcharge of R80.00 will be applied per bottle.

APERITIF

Enjoy an Aperitif whilst you choose your meal and accompanying wine

Pierre Jourdan Ratafia <i>Chardonnay fortified with potstill Brandy made on the Estate, Haute Cabrière. Legendary winemaker of classic 'Champagne style' wines, Achim Von Arnim.</i>	42
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SHERRY

Monis Pale Dry <i>Is a classic fine type Sherry. Dry, aromatic and refreshing. It is best when served slightly chilled.</i>	28
Monis Medium Cream <i>Produced in a solera, this medium cream Sherry is mellow and smooth with an elusive underlying sweetness which makes it a superb accompaniment to Hors d' oeuvres and Soup.</i>	28
Monis Full Cream <i>Fully ripened grapes endow this glowing mature Sherry with a smooth rich character. It is an ideal companion to Cheese and Nuts.</i>	28



WINE BY THE GLASS

WHITE WINES

Jordan The Cold Fact Sauvignon Blanc 2021 - 2022 **** <i>Vigorous gooseberry/grassy scents. Steely, brisk medium-bodied, excellent flavour, long, dry finish.</i> Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmasters: Gary & Kathy Jordan with Tjaak Nelson	180 ml (glass)	75
Cederberg Chenin Blanc 2022 **** <i>Beautiful layers of melon, grapefruit and fleshy white pear.</i> Region: Elim Winemaker: David Nieuwoudt	180 ml (glass)	60
Haute Cabrière Chardonnay/Pinot Noir 2022 **** <i>A blush of pink, tropical fruit and citrus aromas follow through on the palate. An all time favourite.</i> Region: Franschhoek Winemaker: Achim & Takuan von Arnim	180 ml (glass)	60
La Motte Sauvignon Blanc 2021 **(*) <i>Crisp and fruity with ripe melon and gooseberry flavours.</i> Region: Franschhoek Winemaker: Michael Langenhoven	180 ml (glass)	58
Jordan Chameleon Sauvignon Blanc/Chardonnay 2021 *** <i>A Ripe Cape green fig Sauvignon Blanc and zesty, citrus-melon Chardonnay, balanced by a long creamy finish.</i> Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmasters : Gary & Kathy Jordan with Tjaak Nelson	180 ml (glass)	46
Leopard's Leap Semi Sweet 2022 **(*) <i>Fruity melon and pineapple, lusciously sweet.</i> Region: Franschhoek Winemaker: Renier van Deventer	180 ml (glass)	40

ROSE

Cederberg Sustainable Rose <i>A cool continental climate, diverse soil types, unpolluted air and free-flowing, crystal clear waters create ideal growing conditions. Grown using minimal interference, this wine reflects the sustainable practices of the farm.</i> Region: Elim Winemaker: David Nieuwoudt	180 ml (glass)	55
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RED WINES

Beaumont Jackals River Pinotage 2020 - 2022 **** <i>A delicious mouthful. Pure fresh raspberries and red currants.</i> Region: Bot River Winemaker: Sebastian Beaumont	180 ml (glass)	146
Meinert Merlot 2018 **** <i>Supple, plush and rounded. The ripe fruit is checked by bright, juicy acidity. A good frame of integrated oak makes for an easy drinking wine.</i> Region: Stellenbosch Winemaker: Brendan Butler	180 ml (glass)	112
Raats Dolomite Cabernet Franc 2020 ***** <i>Cherries, pepper & smokey notes before a sweep of meaty red fruit – cranberries, ripe plums. Deliciously different.</i> Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmaster: Bruwer Raats	180 ml (glass)	100
La Motte Cabernet Sauvignon 2019 **** <i>Fine floral bouquet, blackcurrant, plum and tobacco hints.</i> Region: Franschhoek Winemaker: Michael Langenhoven	180 ml (glass)	86
Groenland Shiraz 2019 **** <i>Shows restraint and cool tones with savoury, dusty overlay; food style wine.</i> Region: Stellenbosch Winemakers: Kosie Steenkamp with Piet Steenkamp	180 ml (glass)	60



Jordan Chameleon Cabernet/Merlot 2020 ***

Rich, plummy Merlot compliments the minty, blackcurrant flavours of Cabernet Sauvignon.

The peppery, dark berry fruit of the Shiraz adds a spicy complexity to the blend.

Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmasters: Gary & Kathy Jordan with Tjaak Nelson

180 ml (glass) 55

DESSERT WINE

Tierhoek Straw Wine NV **(*)**

An unctuous wine of immense flavours of dried apricots and honey. Wonderful clean finish on the palate with fine balance of sweetness and fresh natural fruit acidity

Region: Citrusdal Cellarmaster: Roger Burton

50ml (glass) 90

Beaumont Goute d'Or 2021 ****




An irresistible combination of honeyed Semillon, dusty botrytis and Sauvignon's refreshing elements.

Region: Bot Rivier Winemaker: Sebastian Beaumont

50 ml (glass) 85




CHAMPAGNE

Dom Perignon 	750 ml	5800
<i>W.O. Haute Villiers, since 1668. An intense, vibrant, tactile yet mature, complex, and sensual champagne - Delicious!</i>		
Region : Champagne (Epernay), France Cellarmaster: Richard Geoffroy		
Moët & Chandon Rosé 	750 ml	1850
<i>W.O. Epernay. Intense and aromatic blend of Pinot Noir, Pinot Meunier and Chardonnay.</i>		
Region: Champagne (Epernay), France Cellarmaster: Benoit Gouez		
Veuve Clicquot Yellow Label 	750 ml	1800
<i>Golden-yellow, with a foaming necklace of tiny bubbles. Aroma's of white fruits and raisins, then of vanilla and later of brioche.</i>		
Region: Champagne (Reims), France Cellarmaster: Dominique Demarville		

MCC

Graham Beck Brut NV ****	750 ml	450
<i>Light yeasty aromas, limey fresh fruit on the nose and rich creamy complexity on the palate.</i>		
<i>The exceptionally fine mousse contributes the freshness and finesse.</i>		
Region: Robertson Cellarmaster: Peter Ferreira		
Simonsig Kaapse Vonkel Brut 2020****(V)		380
<i>The very first Cap Classique released in 1971 and it remains a benchmark. It has notes of Granny Smith apples, citrus and red berry.</i>		
Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmaster: Johan Malan		

PROSECCO

Sartori Prosecco Brut 		420
<i>Straw yellow in colour with light green hues; delicate fruit bouquet, reminiscent of wild apples and acacia flowers.</i>		
<i>Dry with subtle fruit and nut flavour.</i>		
Region: Trevisio Winemaker: Andrea Satori		


BUBBLES

Krone Rosé Cuvée Brut 2019	750 ml	395
<i>Sassy, refreshing and uplifting with hints of berry fruits, enticing less yeastiness and an innocently sensual mousse.</i>		
Region: Tulbach, Wine maker: Stephan de Beer		
Leopard's Leap Sparkling Chardonnay Pinot Noir ***(*) (V)	750 ml	245
<i>Elegant and well rounded with the perfect balance between freshness and fruit</i>		
Region: Franschoek Cellarmaster: Eugene Van Zyl		
Martini Non Alcoholic	750 ml	220
<i>Martini Rose 0.0% is a non-alcoholic sparkling wine produced by Martini & Rossi, a well-known Italian wine company. It is made using a blend of premium still wines and aromatics, which are then de-alcoholized using a sophisticated vacuum distillation process.</i>		
Bonnievale Brut	750 ml	180
<i>Typical Sauvignon Blanc flavours with crisp, fresh tropical fruit undertones.</i>		
Region: Robertson Winemakers: Marthinus Rademeyer, Edwin Mathambo & Jean Slabber		



WHITE WINES

SAUVIGNON BLANC

Cloudy Bay Sauvignon Blanc 2019 	1350
<i>Displays a lovely spectrum of sauvignon blanc flavours and aromas. Zingy lime / grapefruit citrus, ripe tropical characters and delicate floral notes meld on the nose and palate. A small portion of barrel ferment adds weight and texture to the wine, nicely balanced by a mineral acid backbone.</i>	
Country: New Zealand, Marlborough Winemaker: Tim Heath & Nick Blampied-Lane	
Cederberg Ghost Corner Wild Ferment 2019 ****(*) (V)	620
<i>Naturally fermented with enticing aromas of fleshy white pear and quince and a creaminess from barrel maturation.</i>	
Region: Cederberg/Elim Winemaker: David Nieuwoudt	
La Motte Pierneef Sauvignon Blanc 2021 **** (Organically Grown) (V)	335
<i>Citrus, melon, green apple flavours, as well as greenpepper & gooseberry flavours, with a mineral finish.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek Winemaker: Michael Langenhoven	
Jordan The Cold Fact Sauvignon Blanc 2021 - 2022 ****	285
<i>Vigorous gooseberry/grassy scents. Steely, brisk medium-bodied, excellent flavour, long, dry finish.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmasters: Gary & Kathy Jordan with Tjaak Nelson	
Alleé Bleue Sauvignon Blanc 2022 ****	220
<i>This wine has delicate aromas of gooseberries, asparagus, pineapple and granadilla with a crisp, vibrant fruit finish.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek Winemaker: Van Zyl du Toit	
La Motte Sauvignon Blanc 2021 ***(*) (V)	215
<i>Engaging gooseberry followed by pineapple, lime and wild grass well balanced by a moderate acidity</i>	
Region: Franschhoek Winemaker: Michael Langenhoven	
Leopard's Leap Sauvignon Blanc 2022 **(*) (V)	160
<i>Fresh with a lively tropical fruit character, green fig, pear and citrus with a crisp acidity.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek Cellarmaster: Eugene Van Zyl	

CHARDONNAY

Newton Johnson South End Chardonnay 2021 ****	480
<i>A classy, full-bodied Chardonnay. Fermented & matured in French oak for 8 months.</i>	
<i>Inviting citrus and vanilla flavours leave a lingering, crisp & dry finish.</i>	
Region: Hemel&Aarde Winemakers: Gordon Newton Johnson & Nadia Newton Johnson	
Springfield Wild Yeast Chardonnay (unwooded) 2021 ****	345
<i>Creamily rich texture, ripe tropical flavours simply fold into the mouth with stunning concentration.</i>	
Region: Robertson Winemaker: Abrie Bruwer	
Thelema Sutherland Chardonnay 2020 ****	345
<i>Peach & spice upon entry, with a spicy mineral mid-palate & a textured finish, great balance & elegance with perfectly integrated oak.</i>	
Region: Elgin Winemakers: Rudi Schultz & Duncan Clarke	
Vriesenhof Chardonnay Unwooded 2022 ****	240
<i>Crisp citrus aromas and a hint of tropical fruits, with persistent, lingering flavours of nectarines and mango over a spicy edge.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmaster: Jan Boland Coetzee	
Diemersdal Chardonnay 2022 **** (V)	195
<i>Spicy aromas with fresh fruit flavours. The nose is elegant, with the richness of the fruit enhanced by apple & sweet melon.</i>	
Region: Durbanville Winemaker: Thys Louw & Mari Branders	
Leopard's Leap Chardonnay 2022 **(*)	160
<i>Well-rounded, the palate reveals flavours of ripe grapefruit and lemon zest, accompanied by lovely biscuit nuances that leave a lingering aftertaste.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek Cellarmasters: Eugene Van Zyl	



CHENIN BLANC

Beaumont Hope Maguerite Chenin Blanc (Wooded) 2017-2018 *****	770
<i>Absolute balance between fruit & oak. White peach, citrus & spice aromas at the for with a balance of oak, acidity & touch of mineral-ity. Aged in new & used French oak for 10 months.</i>	
Region: Bot River Winemaker: Sebastian Beaumont	
Cederberg Five Generations Chenin Blanc 2021 ****(*) (V)	650
<i>Beautiful layers of melon, grapefruit and fleshy white pear, with a mouth coating creaminess.</i>	
Region: Cederberg/Elim Winemaker: David Nieuwoudt	
Raats Original Chenin Blanc 2022 ****(*)	295
<i>Uninhibited flavours of pineapple, golden delicious apple and citrus. Full mouth feel and lingering aromas.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch Winemaker: Bruwer Raats	
DeMorgenzen Chenin Blanc 2022 ****(*)	270
<i>Green apples, yellow stone fruit, hints of honey and floral aromas characterize a fresh and upfront nose. The palate is rich and unctuous with a lingering aftertaste from the light oaking it receives. Wonderful inviting finish on the palate.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmaster: Carl van der Merwe	
Cederberg Chenin Blanc 2022 **** (V)	230
<i>Beautiful layers of melon, grapefruit and fleshy white pear with mineral notes.</i>	
Region: Cederberg/Elim Winemaker: David Nieuwoudt	

WHITE BLENDS

Cederberg Ghost Corner The Bowline 2022 ****(*) (V)	580
60% Sauvignon Blanc, 40% Semillon	
<i>Green fig and dusty elements from Semillon complement the ripe asparagus notes from the sauvignon blanc.</i>	
<i>Complex wine with well-balanced oak.</i>	
Region: Cederberg/Elim Winemaker: David Nieuwoudt	
DeMorgenzon Maestro White 2019 *****	470
25% Roussanne, 24% Chenin Blanc, 23% Grenache Blanc, 14% Chardonnay, 14% Viognier	
<i>Combination of concentrated orange and yellow stone fruits, with hints of spice, zesty citrus and blossoms.</i>	
<i>The palate is full, textured and very nuanced with a lingering herbal savoury finish.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch Winemakers: Carl van der Merwe & Hanneke Botha	
De Grendel Winifred 2021 (V)	430
45% Semillon, 40% Chardonnay, 15% Viognier	
<i>An exquisitely complex nose of Peach, Preserved Lemon, Honeycomb and Jasmine, with a zesty youthfulness</i>	
Region: Durbanville Winemaker: Charles Hopkins	
Black Oystercatcher White Pearl 2019 ****(*)	340
68% Semillon, 32% Sauvignon Blanc	
<i>Great food wine, full bodied and complex.</i>	
Region: Elim Winemaker: Dirk Human	
Haute Cabrière Chardonnay/Pinot Noir 2022 *****	235
77% Chardonnay, 23% Pinot Noir	
<i>An abundance of zesty fruit, most notably white peach, lychee and red fruit; with a delectably full mouthfeel and balance.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek Winemaker: Takuan von Arnim & Tim Hoek	



Leopard's Leap Semi Sweet 2022 **(*) (V)	145
70% Chenin Blanc, 30% Muscat	
<i>A softly sweet blend of Chenin Blanc and Muscat that tastes like candied fruit, marzipan and apple blossom.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek Cellarmaster: Eugene Van Zyl	
Lookout Cape Leopard Mountain White 2022 (V)	145
62% Chenin Blanc, 38% Chardonnay	
<i>A dry white wine, harmoniously and wonderfully fruity, with notes of tropical fruits such as guava, grapefruit and gooseberry.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek Cellarmaster: Renier van Deventer	

ROSÉ AND BLANC DE NOIR

Cederberg Sustainable Rosé 2022 ***(*) (Organically grown) (V)	190
<i>Elegant aromas of strawberries, watermelon and candy floss, with a dry entry, a creamy palate and a crisp finish</i>	
Region: Cederberg/Elim Winemaker: David Nieuwoudt	
Boschendal Blanc de Noir 2022 ***	160
<i>An appealing pale salmon colour leads to bright red fruit, strawberry and red berries. Good freshness, balance and drinkability. Crisp and dry, but with a pleasant hint of fruit sweetness.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek Cellarmaster: Jacques Viljoen	

OTHER WHITE VARIETALS

Louis Latour Chablis 2021 	1180
<i>Pale yellow in colour, a light mineral nose. Notes of flint, mineral and hint of citrus, lemon and almond. Well rounded taste.</i>	
Region: Chablis, France Cellarmaster: Jean Charles Thomas	
Boekenhoutskloof Semillon 2020 ****(*)	780
<i>Subtle and lessy, with some herbal and orange zest notes and a wild, naturally fermented undertone.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek Cellarmaster: Marc Kent	
Newton Johnson Albarino 2021 ****(*)	490
<i>On the nose it shows some citrus, peach & floral notes, adding a touch of oak spice with that yeasty complexity</i>	
<i>Great balance of fruit & minerality & great acidity to balance.</i>	
Region: Hermanus Winemakers: Gordon Newton Johnson & Nadia Newton Johnson	
Leeuwenkuil Marsanne 2014 ****	230
<i>Ripe tropical fruit and hints of vanilla. Good acidity helps the lingering mineral aftertaste.</i>	
Region: Swartland Cellarmaster: Pieter Carstens	
Cederberg Bukettraube 2022 ***(*)	230
<i>An explosion of aroma and flavour. Prominent Muscat flavours with apricot and floral notes on the nose.</i>	
<i>A well-balanced wine with a delicate sweetness and a crisp acidity.</i>	
Region: Cederberg/Elim Winemaker: David Nieuwoudt	
Oak Valley Stone & Steel Riesling 2020 ****(*)	220
<i>Dried apricot, jasmine and kerosene on the nose with pineapple, grapefruit and some lovely fennel savoury notes on the palate</i>	
Region: Elgin Winemaker: Jacques du Plessis	
Simonsig Gewürztraminer 2022 ***(*)	215
<i>Sweet aromatics and spice are beautifully balanced by fresh acidity and finesse, and extend onto the lingering honeyed spice finish.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmaster: Johan Malan	



RED WINES

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Five Generations Cabernet Sauvignon 2013 - 2015 ****(*)	1200
<i>French oak has intensified the rich aromas of blackcurrant and cassis, layered with decadent dark chocolate and cherry tobacco.</i>	
Region: Cederberg/Elim Winemaker: David Nieuwoudt	
Thelema Cabernet Sauvignon 2019 ****(*) (V)	620
<i>Spicy aromas of liquorice and vanilla mingle with blackcurrant fruit. Layers of fruit and oak tannins provide the necessary framework for ripe full fruit flavours of plum and blackberry.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmaster: Gyles Webb Winemaker: Rudi Schultz	
Jordan The Long Fuse Cabernet Sauvignon 2018 ****(*)	480
<i>Deep ruby colour, huge mouth filling flavours of blackberry, cassis and vanilla. French Oak barrels add a complex toastiness.</i>	
La Motte Cabernet Sauvignon 2019 **** (V)	335
<i>Intense blackcurrant, violets, mint and fleshy plum with seamless oak integration.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek Winemaker: Michael Langenhoven	
Groenland Cabernet Sauvignon 2019 ****	220
<i>A beautifully well rounded fruity wine that flavours your palate with hints of Black Pepper and Berry notes, as well as a smooth, lingering chocolate flavour finish.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch Winemakers: Kosie Steenkamp with Piet Steenkamp	

PINOTAGE

Steytler Pinotage 2018 ****(*)	1250
<i>Sweet spice, freshly picked red plums, black cherries and cola are supported by aromatic toasted coconut and milk from the youthful oak.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmaster: Danie Steytler Snr.	
Wildeckrans Pinotage Barrel Selection 2020 ****(*)	820
<i>Full bodied yet smoothly structured. Toasty oak and sweetish finish detract from pretty raspberry undertones.</i>	
Region: Bot River Winemaker: William Wilkinson	
Bernard Series Small Barrel SMV 2014- 2019 ****(*)	790
<i>Deep ruby with a bright crimson rim. An entry of alluring black and red berry and cherry aromas layered with dark chocolate, winter spice, rose and violet on the nose carried through to an intricate intensely fruited palate that is both powerful and graceful. A long, full finish of good length and complexity.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek Winemaker: Richard Duckitt	
Southern Right Pinotage 2021 **** (V)	695
<i>intense classically styled, clay-grown wine, packed with complex berry fruit, beautiful tannins and subtle wood spice.</i>	
<i>Full ripeness and the longer hang-time afforded by cooler sites.</i>	
Region: Hermanus Winemaker: Emul Ross	
Bernard Series Bush Vine Pinotage 2019 ****(*)	570
<i>Deep ruby with tints of purple on the rim. Liberal black cherry, ripe mulberry and raspberry confit aromas are followed by plum pudding, smoked meat flavours and savoury hints of truffle, as well as good spice oak integration on the long, succulent finish.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek Winemaker: Richard Duckitt	
Beaumont Jackals River Pinotage 2022 ****	565
<i>The wine shows intense plum and chocolate nose, with cherry tobacco and cedar wood. Tannins are soft and well balanced.</i>	
<i>Has a full palate with exceptionally long after-taste.</i>	
Region: Bot River Winemaker: Sebastian Beaumont	
Mellasad Sigma White Pinotage 2018-2019 ****	275
<i>The world's first White Pinotage. Making white wine from red grapes using South Africa's unique Pinotage grape.</i>	
<i>Barrel fermented and matured for eleven months with lees stirring gives this wine a slightly creamy, nutty character to balance the tropical fruit and banana flavours.</i>	
Region: Paarl Winemakers: Faizel Samuels & Gizelle Coetzee	



Vriesenhof Pinotage ***(*) 250
A concentrated, fruity Pinotage with a touch of oak. Some spice on the nose as well as an abundance of small red berries.
Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmaster: Jan Boland Coetzee

SHIRAZ

The Bernard Series Basket Press Syrah 2019 ****(*) 575
A powerful aromatic wine that is assertive yet delicate and refined, with ample cracked black and white pepper spice, hints of rich dark chocolate. against a substantial red berry fruit foundation tinged with subtle floral suggestions of violets and dried indigenous fynbos.
Region: Franschhoek Winemaker: Richard Duckitt

Cederberg Shiraz 2019 ****(*) (V) 540
Intense fruit flavours of mulberries, spice and cherries follow through leaving a silky smooth sensation.
Region: Cederberg/Elim Winemaker: David Nieuwoudt

De Grendel Shiraz 2020 ****(*) 430
Full bodied, with violets and blackberries and well supported by oak undertones and sweet ripe tannins that linger with a beautiful clove flavour.
Region: Durbanville Winemaker: Elzette de Preez

Vergelegen Shiraz 2020 ****(*) 330
Dark ruby with violets, spice, chocolate and black berry fruit on the nose. The palate shows a balanced acidity, with rich tannins and a long clean fruit dominated aftertaste.
Region: Somerset West Winemaker: André van Rensburg

Neil Ellis Groenekloof Syrah Shiraz 2020**** 310
A medium-bodied Syrah with a vibrant colour. The nose has bright dark fruit with contributing perfumed aromas of violet and rose petal.
Region: Darling Western Cape Winemaker: Warren Ellis

Groenland Shiraz Classic 2019 *** 210
This complex and traditional cultivar will tease your taste buds- on the palate with vanilla and smokey aromas
Region: Stellenbosch Winemakers: Kosie Steenkamp with Piet Steenkamp

Franschhoek Cellar Baker Station Shiraz 2020 **(*) 190
Brimming with exuberant mulberry and plum flavours, it has soft ripe tannins that provide a well-structured and balanced juicy finish.
Region: Franschhoek Winemaker: Ryan Puttick

MERLOT

Meerlust Merlot 2015 - 2017 ****(*) (V) 950
Intense dark fruit on the nose, mulberry and damson plum with hints of dark chocolate and spice
Region: Stellenbosch Cellar master: Chris Williams

Vergelegen Merlot 2016 ****(*) 570
Ripe plum colour with a ruby rim. The nose shows ripe fruit flavours, black cherries, plum, spice and a touch of chocolate. The ripeness of the fruit is balanced by fresh fruit acidity and soft wood/fruit tannins. The aftertaste is long and lasting.
Region: Somerset West Winemaker: André van Rensburg

Meinert Merlot 2018 ***(*) 425
Our Meinert Merlot offers an array of complex red and black berries, overlain with spice and supported with juicy, supple tannins. Careful cellaring will reward you with great longevity, but one need not lay this wine down before being able to fully enjoy as our philosophy of 'a great wine only gets better with age' underpins our wine-farming philosophy. Enjoy each sip to enrich the soul and ignite your inner youthful spark.
Region: Stellenbosch Winemaker: Brendan Butler

Middelvlei Merlot 2020 **(*) 250
Intense blackcurrant and minty aromas, mocha flavours and silky smooth tannins.
Region: Stellenbosch Winemaker: Tinnie Momberg



Franschhoek Cellar Old Museum Merlot 2021 **(*)	195
<i>Soft and juicy with attractive plum and black cherry aromas intertwined with herbal tea, liquorice and gentle oak spice.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek Winemaker: Ryan Puttick	
Leopard's Leap Merlot 2021 *** (V)	165
<i>Packed with juicy mulberry and red cherry fruit characteristics with subtle spicy oak undertones and a long, smooth finish.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek Cellarmaster: Eugene Van Zyl	

PINOT NOIR

Cederberg Ghost Corner Pinot Noir 2020 ****(*) (V)	610
<i>Red fruit of ripe cherries and raspberries and an undertone of earthy, mushroom nuances with delicate oak.</i>	
Region: Elim Winemaker: David Nieuwoudt	
Oak Valley Sound of Silence Pinot Noir 2020 ****	320
<i>Dried strawberry, cured meats and potpourri on the nose with beetroot and cranberry on the palate</i>	
Region: Elgin Winemaker: Jacques du Plessis	

OTHER RED VARIETALS

Margaux Private Selection 2019 ■ ■	1100
<i>A perfumey nose with intense black berry flavours and fair oak structure. It has lots of tannins which cloak the fruit flavours.</i>	
Region: Bordeaux, France Winemakers : Schroder & Schyler	
Treinspoor 2020 ****(*)	950
<i>Tinta Barocca is a grape that carries the soil into the bottle, it is a great communicator of terroir. The grape has had a longstanding relationship with the Swartland and the spicy herbal aromatics and dark purple plum like fruit carries over into a very tight and compressed core of the wine</i>	
Region: Swartland – Malmesbury Winemakers : The Sadie Family	
Marques De Riscal Reserva Rioja 2016 ■ ■	850
<i>Cherry-red colour with good robe. Spicy, balsamic aromas of great complexity, with notes of ripe dark berries and light toasted nuances. On the palate it is full and tasty, with good structure and rounded, elegant tannins.</i>	
Country: Spain, Rioja Alavesa Winemaker: Marqués Riscal	
Soldaat 2020 *****	830
<i>The fermentation of the Soldaat vineyard is a wonderful experience in the cellar since the red strawberry, cherry and pomegranate kind of fresh fruit aromas and perfumes fill the entire space; and these and similar flavours are to be found in the resultant wine. Grenache is a grape that completely translates the terroir into liquid.</i>	
Region: Citrusdal Mountain - Piekenierskloof Winemakers : The Sadie Family	
Neil Ellis Piekenierskloof Vineyard Selection Grenache 2018 ****(*)	725
<i>The nose has red cherries and strawberries with perfumed violet like aromas. A fresh palate with flavours of raspberries and strawberries leading into a balanced mid palate of fine textured tannins.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch Winemaker: Warren Ellis	
E. Guigal Cotes du Rhone 2018 ■ ■	650
<i>Ripe but restrained, fruity yet elegant, this richly concentrated red offers luscious black cherry and berry flavors nuanced by hints of earth, smoke and spice. The palate is rich and fleshy but anchored by taut acidity and a finely edged backbone of tannins.</i>	
Region: Rhone Valley, France Wine maker: Philippe Guigal	
Steenberg Nebbiolo 2016 ****(*)	580
<i>On appearance, this wine is ruby red with a typically clear yet bright hue. The bouquet displays primary notes of fresh strawberry coulis, dried cranberry along with some truffle, leather and red cherry. The wine displays the natural tart acidity and grippy tannins of Nebbiolo on the palate, although with a well-rounded and fuller mouth-feel than can sometimes be the case with this varietal. Flavours of sour cherry, raspberry and tobacco leaf linger to give the wine brilliant length and persistence.</i>	
Region: Constantia Cellarmaster: JD Pretorius	



Raats Dolomite Cabernet Franc 2020 ****(*)	380
<i>Dark plum, cherry, cinnamon and clove notes on the nose. Concentrated, silky round tannins that run from start to finish, showing dark chocolate and rich plum flavours.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmaster: Bruwer Raats	
Zorgvliet Petit Verdot 2018 ****	365
<i>Has an intense black colour with a vibrant purple rim, The nose is deep and brooding, with black fruit on the nose and aromas of violets, printers ink, iodine, dried sage and cassis. Tight and focused structure on the mid palate with a medium Length Finish.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch Winemakers: Bernard le Roux & Ruben Adams	
Diemersdal Malbec 2021 ***(*)	330
<i>A concentrated wine with ripe black fruit and spicy undertones, a mineral core and a juicy finish.</i>	
Region: Durbanville Cellarmaster: Thys Louw & Mari Branders, with Juandre Bruwer and Janeke Beck	
De Krans Touriga Nacional 2018 ***(*)	290
<i>Full, well-balanced wine with complex flavours of black currents, dried prunes, cherry cigar and violets, with a lingering aftertaste of dark chocolate and a smooth tannin.</i>	
Region: Calitzdorp Winemarker : Louis van der Riet	
De Krans Tinta Roriz 2019 ***(*)	285
<i>Full bodied red with savoury spice and earthiness. Soft red fruit flavours and chewy tannins.</i>	
Region: Calitzdorp Winemarker : Christoff de Wet	

RED WINE MAGNUMS

Meerlust Rubicon 2015 ****(*) (V)	1.5l Magnum	2400
<i>67% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Merlot, 12% Cabernet Franc, 7% Petit Verdot</i>		
<i>From the Directors Cellar. Exotic aromas of plum, sandalwood and a touch of creamy vanilla with cassis and mulberry flavours.</i>		
Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmaster: Chris Williams		
Grangehurst Nikela 2008 ****	1.5l Magnum	1250
<i>35% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Pinotage, 23% Shiraz, 8% Merlot</i>		
<i>W This full bodied mature red wine has a ruby/mulberry colour with mint, cedar and mocha aromas and flavours.</i>		
<i>A full-bodied barrel matured red wine with smooth, ripe tannins.</i>		
Region: Stellenbosch Winemaker: Jeremy Walker		
Rupert and Rothschild Classique 2017 (V)	1.5l Magnum	1050
<i>50% Merlot, 35% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Cabernet Franc</i>		
<i>Aromas of red plum, raspberries and cherries are prominent, layered with forest floor and oak spice expressed as toasted caramel and walnut.</i>		
Region: Paarl Winemakers: Yvonne Lester & Clive Radloff		
La Motte Shiraz 2019 ****	1.5l Magnum	920
<i>Luscious fruit, rich and complex flavours of plums, vanilla and spice.</i>		
Region: Franschhoek Winemaker: Michael Langenhoven		
Vondeling Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot 2005 ****	1.5l Magnum	720
<i>65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot</i>		
<i>A highly regarded vintage, softened by time, this gentle giant still has the resonance of greatness. Once powerful, the wine now shows elegant redberry fruit with sweet notes of toasted tobacco and sandalwood.</i>		
Region: Paarl Winemaker: Matthew Copeland		

RED BLENDS

Mvemve Raats de Compostella 2020 *****	3950
<i>41% Cabernet Franc, 19% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Malbec, 14% Merlot, 9% Petit Verdot</i>	
<i>Wonderfully balanced Bordeaux blend. Deep, dark, intense ruby colour, aromas of crushed black plum and hints of cigar smoke. Rich and bold with mineral black berry fruit & bittersweet cocoa notes on the finish.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmaster: Mzokhona Mvemve & Bruwer Raats	
Kanonkop Paul Sauer 2015 *****	3250
<i>70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Cabernet Franc, 12% Merlot</i>	



Complex and perfumed on the nose, with a layered fruit spectrum of cassis, plums and sour cherries which are further complimented by notes of tobacco, cedar wood and cigar box. The full and rich expression of the 2015 vintage, which is expressively fruit forward and opulent, will stand the test of time and be very rewarding to those with some patience

Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmaster: Abrie Beeslaar
Meerlust Rubicon 2015 - 2016 **(*)** 1250
 49% Cabernet Sauvignon, 28% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc, 3% Petit Verdot
From the Director's Cellar. Cassis & graphite whiffs, plush yet lithe and restrained, with good grip from 69 % cab with merlot and cab franc.

Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmaster: Chris Williams
Buitenverwachting Christine 2015 **(*) (V)** 1150
 47% Cabernet Sauvignon, 29% Cabernet Franc, 11% Merlot, 8% Petit Verdot, 5% Malbec
From the Director's Cellar. Merlot, cab franc and malbec, offers rich deep cassis & cherry fruit. Spicy cedar minerals. A touch leaner than previous, but nicely zesty.

Region: Constantia Winemaker: Brad Paton with Stephan Steyn
Frescobaldi Nipozzanno Riserva Chianti 2018 ■ ■ 985
 90% Sangiovese, 4% Malvasia Nera, 2% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Colorino, 2% Merlot
Fresh and fragrant, this racy red has enticing woodland berry and violet scents and an earthy whiff of new leather. The lithe, elegant palate offers juicy red cherry, crushed red raspberry, cinnamon and star anise flavors framed by polished tannins and vibrant acidity. An outstanding performance for a cool, difficult vintage.

Region: Chianti Rufina, Tuscany, Italy Winemaker: Lamberto Frescobaldi
Bernard Series Small Barrel SMV 2014 - 2019 **(*)** 790
 87% Shiraz, 10% Mourvèdre, 3% Vognier
Packed with cracked black and white pepper spice, hints of rich chocolate, mocha and generous mulberry fruit.

Region: Franschhoek Winemaker: Richard Duckitt
Bouchard Finlayson Hannibal 2019 **(*)** 780
 42% Sangiovese, 17% Nebbiolo, 15% Pinot Noir, 12% Shiraz, 7% Mourvedre, 7% Barbera
This vintage is fresh and alive with a characteristic Italian mouthfeel reflecting fruity complexity. Olive and red current flavours combine with cranberry to result in a lingering finish and complex mouthfeel. Excellent maturation is expected.

Region: Hermanus Cellarmaster: Chris Albrecht with Nelis Uys
Raats Jasper Red Blend (Bordeaux) 2020 **** 540
 60% Cabernet Franc, 31% Malbec, 7% Petit Verdot, 2% Merlot
A full Bordeaux blend – 53%cab franc, 36% Malbec, 5% Merlot, 3% Cab Sauv & 3% Petit Verdot Red & Black berry aromas to the fore & balanced & integrated herbal & spice character Wine is aged for 10 months in 2nd & 3rd fill French oak barrels.

Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmaster: Bruwer Raats
Brampton The Roxton 2018 *(*)** 345
 84% Petit Verdot, 10% Shiraz, 6% Malbec
The Petit Verdot contributes to the muscular structure of the wine while the Shiraz adds a distinctive flavour to the mid-palate. The Malbec add bright berry fruit. This wine displays delicious dark black cherries with dark chocolate and spice on the mid-palate and a lingering finish.

Region: Stellenbosch Winemaker: Jacques Viljoen
Cederberg Merlot/Shiraz 2020 *(*)** 270
 70% Merlot, 30% Shiraz
The entry captures an abundance of red berries and dark fruits. succulent cherries, cranberries, sweet plums and hints of chocolate, leather and spice.

Region: Cederberg/Elim Winemaker: David Nieuwoudt
Jordan Chameleon Cabernet/Merlot 2020 *** 190
 69% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot, 10% Shiraz
Rich, plummy Merlot complements the minty, blackcurrant flavours of Cabernet Sauvignon. The peppery, dark berry fruit of the Shiraz adds a spicy complexity to the blend.

Region: Stellenbosch Cellarmasters: Gary & Kathy Jordan with Tjaak Nelson

RESERVE LIST

RED WINES

Raats Cabernet Franc 2011 - 2012 **** (V)	3200
<i>From the Director's Cellar. Dark plum, cherry, cinnamon and clove notes on the nose. Concentrated, silky round tannins that run from start to finish, showing smokey dark chocolate and rich plum flavours.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch Cellar master: Bruwer Raats	
Luddite Shiraz 2008 ****	2200
<i>From the Director's Cellar. Appearance: Deep purple and dark red. Nose: Rich vibrant fruit, mostly plums and mulberries, dark chocolate and hints of wooding. Palate: Dark fruit and a rich mouth feel welcome you on entry to the palate. There is a feeling of decadence which is balanced by firm tannin, spice and toasty wood.</i>	
Region: Bot River Winemaker: Niels Verburg	
Veenwouden Classic 2000 ****(*)	1900
50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc, 5% Malbec	
<i>From the Directors Cellar. The benchmark Bordeaux blend, soigné black currants and pencil shavings, sustain flavours in classic structure – SUPERB!</i>	
Region: Paarl Winemaker: Marcel van der Walt	
Boekenhoutskloof Cabernet Sauvignon 2005 *****	1400
<i>Blackberries and dark cherries follow through onto a layered palate, with bright flavours of brambles, mulberries and red liquorice, and hints of graphite minerality, cedar spiciness and a gentle sous-bois character. A pure, crystalline fruit profile is perfectly balanced with a bright freshness, integrated acidity, and very fine-grained, cocoa-powdery tannins, all contributing to the wine's sublime structure and exceptional depth.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek Winemaker: Marc Kent	
Cederberg Shiraz 2013 Magnum ****	1300
<i>A complex Shiraz filled with intense red fruit, mulberry and cherries on the nose.</i>	
Region: Cederberg/Elim Winemaker: David Nieuwoudt	
Stellenzicht Syrah 2003 ****(*)	995
<i>From the Directors Cellar. A Cape icon, opaque depths, harbouring gorgeous mocha and dark choc hints. Balanced persistence. Fruit starting to evolve.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch Winemaker: Guy Webber & Natalee Botha	
Rust en Vrede Cabernet Sauvignon 2007 ****	960
<i>Herbal tone with ripe cassis checked by dry, firm tannins from 18 months French oak.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch Winemaker: Coenie Snyman	

Wine Terms & Wine Lingo

Learning some wine terminology is often the first step to increasing your wine knowledge. Use our list below to help you along as you encounter new wine lingo.

ACIDS

Acids give wine tartness. Several acids are in the grape before fermentation, and others arise afterward. Acids often make a wine seem “crisp” or “refreshing.”

AFTERTASTE

A tasting term for the taste left on the palate after wine has been swallowed. “Finish” is a synonym.

ALCOHOL

Generally refers to ethanol, a chemical compound found in alcoholic beverages. It is also commonly used to refer to alcoholic beverages in general.

APPELLATION OF ORIGIN

You might see this phrase on a wine label. It denotes the place where most of the grapes used in the wine were grown. An appellation of origin can be the name of a country, state, county or geographic region. Federal regulations require that at least 75 percent of the grapes must be grown in the named appellation of origin.

AROMA

The smell of a wine. The term is generally applied to younger wines, while the term Bouquet is reserved for more aged wines.

ASTRINGENCY

The degree of astringency (how much a wine makes your mouth pucker) depends upon the amount of tannin a wine has absorbed from the skins and seeds of the grapes. A moderate amount of astringency is desirable-it creates a lovely flavor-in many red wine types.

BALANCE

A wine has balance when its elements are harmonious; when no one part dominates. Acid should balance against sweetness; fruit should balance against oak and tannin; alcohol balances against acid and flavor.

BARREL

A hollow cylindrical container, traditionally made of wood staves, used for fermenting and aging wine. Sometimes called a cask.

BAUMÉ

A measure of the sugar concentration in the juice or wine.

BLENDING

The mixing of two or more different parcels of wine together by winemakers to produce a consistent finished wine that is ready for bottling. Laws generally dictate what wines can be blended together, and what is subsequently printed on the wine label.

BLIND TASTING

Tasting and evaluating wine without knowing what it is.

BOTRYTIS CINEREA

See Noble rot.

BOTTLE SHOCK

Also known as bottle-sickness, a temporary condition of wine characterized by muted or disjointed fruit flavors. It often occurs immediately after bottling or when wines (usually fragile wines) are shaken in travel. After several days the condition usually disappears.



BODY

It's all about how thin or thick the wine feels in your mouth. "Light body" connotes a thin feeling in your mouth. "Medium body" means that a wine is full-flavored, without being too heavy. "Heavy body" means the wine has a robust, round, and very rich feel.

BOUQUET

Smells that result from a wine's aging process. Bouquet can also describe a wine's overall smell.

BRIX

A standardized scale to measure the sugar content in grapes before fermentation. Most table wines are harvested between 19 degrees and 25 degrees Brix.

BRUT

A French term for a very dry champagne or sparkling wine. Drier than extra dry.

BUNG

A stopper used to seal a bottle or barrel. Commonly used term for corks.

CARBONIC MACERATION

A winemaking practice of fermenting whole grapes that have not been crushed.

CELLAR

A storehouse or storeroom used specifically for holding wine. Long ago, wine was best kept in underground cellars. Modern methods of insulation and temperature control have transformed the job of storing wine, making it possible for wine "cellars" to be above ground as well. Wine is best stored horizontally in a dark place with minimal temperature fluctuation. The optimal temperature for storing most wines is between 45°F and 65°F. Check out Serving and Storage for more details.

CELLARING

To age wine for the purpose of improvement or storage. Cellaring may occur in any area which is cool (12-15°C), dark, free from drastic temperature change, and free from vibrations. Bottled wines are typically cellared on their sides.

CHAPTALIZATION

A winemaking process where sugar is added to the must to increase the alcohol content in the fermented wine. This is often done when grapes have not ripened adequately.

CHARMAT PROCESS

The Charmat or bulk process is a method where sparkling wines receive their secondary fermentation in large tanks, rather than individual bottles as seen in Méthode champenoise.

CLARIFICATION

A winemaking process involving the fining and filtration of wine to remove suspended solids and reduce turbidity.

CORKED

A tasting term for a wine that has cork taint.

CRÉMANT

French sparkling wine not made in Champagne region.

CRUST

Sediment, generally potassium bitartrate, which adheres to the inside of a wine bottle.

CUVE

A large vat used for fermentation.

CUVÉE

A wine blended from several vats or batches, or from a selected vat. Also used in Champagne to denote the juice from the first pressing of a batch of grapes.



DECANTING

The process of pouring wine from its bottle into a decanter to separate the sediment from the wine.

DÉGORGEMENT

The disgorging or removal of sediment from bottles that results from secondary fermentation.

DEVATting

The process of separating red must from pomace, which can happen before or after fermentation.

DOUX

The French word for sweet. Usually refers to the sweetest category of sparkling wines.

DRY

Wines with zero or very low levels of residual sugar. The opposite of sweet, except in sparkling wines, where dry means sweet.

EXTRACT

Everything in a wine except for water, sugar, alcohol, and acidity, the term refers to the solid compounds such as tannins. High levels of extract results in more color and body, which may be increased by prolonging the wine's contact with the skins during Cuvaison.

FERMENTATION

This is the way in which grape sugar is converted to ethyl alcohol and carbon dioxide, thereby converting grape juice into wine.

FINING

A clarification process where flocculants, such as bentonite or egg white, are added to the wine to remove suspended solids.

FINISH

The finish is the overall taste that remains in your mouth after you've swallowed the wine; it's the length and pleasantness of the aftertaste. A well-balanced, full-bodied wine usually has a long finish, while a well-balanced, light-bodied wine has a shorter finish.

FLABBY

Tasting term used to indicate a wine lacking in structure, often marked by low acidity.

FORTIFIED WINE

Wine to which alcohol has been added, generally to increase the concentration to a high enough level to prevent fermentation.

FREE RUN

Juice obtained from grapes that have not been pressed.

HARD

A tasting term for a wine that contains too much tannin and is therefore unpleasant. Hard wines often take a long time to mature.

LATE HARVEST WINE

Also known as late picked, wine made from grapes that have been left on the vine longer than usual. Usually an indicator for a very sweet or dessert wine.

LEES

Wine sediment that occurs during and after fermentation, and consists of dead yeast, grape seeds, and other solids. Wine is separated from the lees by racking.



LEGS

You've seen them-the drops of wine that creep down the side of the wine glass. A higher alcohol content means thinner legs flow back into the wine after you swirl the glass.

LOOK

A tasting term for the casual sensory evaluation of a wine.

MACERATION

The contact of grape skins with the must during fermentation, extracting phenolic compounds including tannins, anthocyanins, and aroma. See also Cuvaison.

MALOLACTIC FERMENTATION

Also called "secondary fermentation." The sharp malic acid in wine converts to lactic acid and carbon dioxide, thereby decreasing tartness and creating buttery aromas.

MICRO OXYGENATION

The controlled exposure of wine to small amounts of oxygen in the attempt to reduce the length of time required for maturation.

MIDPALATE

A tasting term for the feel and taste of a wine when held in the mouth.

MOUTHFEEL

The various sensations – thick or thin, round or lean – a wine can create while in the mouth.

NOBLE ROT

Another name for the Botrytis cinerea mould that can pierce grape skins causing dehydration. The resulting grapes produce a highly prized sweet wine, generally dessert wine.

NOSE

Many wine lovers prefer to say nose, but what they actually mean is the smell or aroma of the wine. The nose of a wine is best sensed by smell just after you swirl the wine in your glass. Check out How to Taste Wine to learn more about the classical process of wine tasting.

OFF-DRY

A wine that has the barest hint of sweetness; a slightly sweet wine in which the residual sugar is barely perceptible.

OLD VINE

Wine produced from vines that are notably old.

PALATE

A tasting term for the feel and taste of a wine in the mouth.

PH

A measure of the acidity. The lower the pH, the higher the acidity. The term comes from the French Pouvoir Hydrogène meaning "hydrogen power". pH is a shorthand for its mathematical approximation: in chemistry a small p is used in place of writing log₁₀ and the H here represents [H⁺], the concentration of hydrogen ions.

PHYLLOXERA

Underground insect that kills grape vines by attacking their roots.

PLONK

British English slang for an inexpensive bottle of wine. The term is thought to originate from the French word for white wine, "blanc".



POMACE

The skins, stalks, and pips (seeds) that remain after making wine. Also called marc.

POTASSIUM SORBATE

A wine stabilizer and preservative.

PROOF

Refers to the alcohol content of a beverage. In the United States, proof represents twice the alcohol content as a percentage of volume. Thus, a 100 proof beverage is 50% alcohol by volume and a 150 proof beverage is 75% alcohol. In the Imperial system, proof, (or 100% proof), equals 57.06% ethanol by volume, or 48.24% by weight. Absolute or pure ethanol is 75.25 over proof, or 175.25 proof.

RACKING

The process of drawing wine off the sediment, such as lees, after fermentation and moving it into another vessel.

RESERVE

A term given to wine to indicate that it is of higher quality than usual.

RESIDUAL SUGAR

Often referred to as RS, it is a measure of the amount of sugar remaining in the wine after fermentation stops. RS is usually measured in grams of sugar per liter or milliliter of wine, and it indicates how sweet or dry a wine is.

REVERSE OSMOSIS

A process used to remove excess water from wine.

RIDDLING

Also known as “Rémuage” in French, part of the Méthode Champenoise process whereby bottles of sparkling wine are successively turned and gradually tilted upside down so that sediment settles into the necks of the bottles in preparation for degorgement.

SCREWCAP

An alternative to cork for sealing wine bottles, comprising a metal cap that screws onto threads on the neck of a bottle. Also called a “Stelvin”.

SEC

French for dry, except in the case of Champagne, where it means semi-sweet.

SECONDARY FERMENTATION

Most commonly the term is used to refer to the continuation of fermentation in a second vessel - e.g. moving the wine from a stainless steel tank to an oak barrel.

SOMMELIER

(So-mel-YAY) The French word for wine steward. Many fine restaurants have a Sommelier to assist guests in choosing a wine from the menu.

SULFITES

Compounds (typically: potassium metabisulfite or sodium metabisulfite) which are added to wine to prevent oxidation, microbial spoilage, and further fermentation by the yeast.

SULPHUR DIOXIDE

A substance used in winemaking as a preservative.

TANNINS

Naturally occurring substances found mostly in grape skins, seeds and stems. They can give young wines a mouth-puckering bitterness and astringency, but some tannins are desirable in red wines to give them structure.



TERROIR

French for “soil”, the physical and geographical characteristics of a particular vineyard site that give the resultant wine its unique properties.

TEXTURE

A tasting term for the mouthfeel of wine on the palate.

TRANSPARENCY

The ability of a wine to clearly portray all unique aspects of its flavor--fruit, floral, and mineral notes. The opposite would be a wine where flavors are diffused and thoroughly integrated.

UNOAKED

Also known as unwooded, refers to wines that have been matured without contact with wood/oak such as in aging barrels.

VARIETAL

The varieties of grape from which the wine was made. You might be familiar with many of these: Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Pinot Grigio, Pinot Noir, Merlot and Shiraz.

VINICULTURE

The art and science of making wine. Also called enology (or oenology). Not to be confused with viticulture.

VINTAGE

The year in which the grapes used to make the wine were harvested.

VITICULTURE

The cultivation of grapes. Not to be confused with viniculture.

VOLATILE ACIDITY

The level of acetic acid present within a wine.

WINE-PRESS

A device, comprising two vats or receptacles, one for trodding and bruising grapes, and the other for collecting the juice.

YEAST

A microscopic unicellular fungi responsible for the conversion of sugars in must to alcohol. This process is known as alcoholic fermentation.

YOUNG

Wine that is not matured and usually bottled and sold within a year of its vintage.

ZYMOLOGY

The science of fermentation.

