



Our Wine List

Diners Club Diamond Award Winner: 2018, 2019

Diners Club Platinum Award Winner: 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2022, 2023

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.

Ginger

PORT ELIZABETH SOUTH AFRICA

INDEX PAGE

HOW TO TASTE	3
WINE AND FOOD PAIRING RECOMMENDATIONS	4
PLATTERS SOUTH AFRICAN WINE GUIDE 2023	5
NOTES	6
APERITIF	7
<i>Apéritifs and digestifs are drinks, typically alcoholic, that are normally served before or after a meal.</i>	
WINE BY GLASS	7
<i>A selection of wines served by the glass.</i>	
CHAMPAGNE	9
<i>Champagne is a sparkling wine originated and produced in the Champagne wine region of France under the rules of the appellation.</i>	
CAP CLASSIQUE	9
<i>Méthode Cap Classique or MCC for short, is the South African version of Champagne .</i>	
PROSECCO	9
<i>Prosecco is also a sparkling white wine, but unlike Champagne, it's Italian.</i>	
SPARKLING WINE	9
<i>Sparkling wine is grape juice with alcohol and bubbles. It's made from fermented grape juice.</i>	
SAUVIGNON BLANC	10
<i>Sauvignon blanc produces white wines with distinct green and herbaceous flavours. The name means "wild white" in French</i>	
CHARDONNAY	10
<i>Chardonnay is a green-skinned grape variety used in the production of white wine.</i>	
CHENIN BLANC	10
<i>A Chenin Blanc is a highly acidic white wine varietal.</i>	
WHITE BLENDS	11
<i>A section of our winelist dedicated less main stream varietals.</i>	
ROSE & BLANC DE NOIR	11
<i>Our Blanc de Noirs Rosé is predominantly made from hand harvested Pinot Noir grapes.</i>	
OTHER WHITE VARIETALS	11
<i>Try some of the wines we love that are perhaps not as common as a chardonnay.</i>	
CABERNET SAUVIGNON	12
<i>Cabernet Sauvignon is one of the world's most widely recognized red wine grape varieties.</i>	
PINOTAGE	12
<i>Pinotage PIN-a-tahzh is a red wine grape that is South Africa's signature variety.</i>	
SHIRAZ	13
<i>Syrah, also known as Shiraz, is a dark-skinned grape variety grown throughout the world.</i>	
MERLOT	13
<i>Merlot is a dark blue-colored wine grape variety, that is used as both a blending grape and for varietal wines.</i>	
PINOT NOIR	13
<i>Pinot Noir is a red-wine grape variety of the species Vitis vinifera.</i>	
<i>The name may also refer to wines created predominantly from pinot noir grapes.</i>	
OTHER RED VARIETALS	14
<i>Cabernet Sauvignon , merlot and shiraz get all the attention. This section of the wine list is dedicated to a handful of our most interesting red wines.</i>	
RED WINE MAGNUMS	14
<i>A magnum is twice the size of a regular bottle.</i>	
RED BLENDS	15
<i>The phrase "red blend" refers to red wines that are made from different types of grapes blended together.</i>	
DESSERT WINE	16
<i>Dessert wines, sometimes called pudding wines in the United Kingdom, are sweet wines typically served with dessert.</i>	
PORT	16
<i>Port wine is most commonly enjoyed as a dessert wine because its richness.</i>	
DIRECTOR'S RESERVE LIST	17
<i>Personal selection of aged and cherished wines</i>	

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

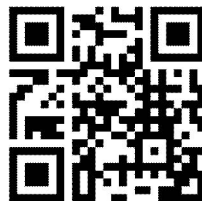
Pinotage / Shiraz / Mourvedre / Rhone Blends

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 and Android via the App Store and Google Play.



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



“Language is wine upon the lips” - Virginia Woolf

*****	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 2023

- 2023 South African winegrowers showed characteristic pluck in the face of 2023 harvest challenges. Despite a wet season capped by disruptive late-harvest rains, the vintage is being hailed by respected winemakers and viticulturists for its quality, in particular for whites.
- 2022 The 2022 harvest started later than normal due to a cool growing season. The crop was smaller than in 2021, but still above average for the region. Wine quality seems promising and consumers can expect outstanding red wines.
- 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.
- 2006 Perhaps the best white wine vintage in a decade - particularly expressive Sauvignon and Chenin. Fleshy, mild-tannined reds, with lower alcohols.



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
 - SWELLENLAMD
 - WALKER BAY

OLIFANTS RIVER

- Districts:
- CITRUSDAL VALLEY
 - CITRUSDAL MOUNTAIN

BREEDE RIVER VALLEY

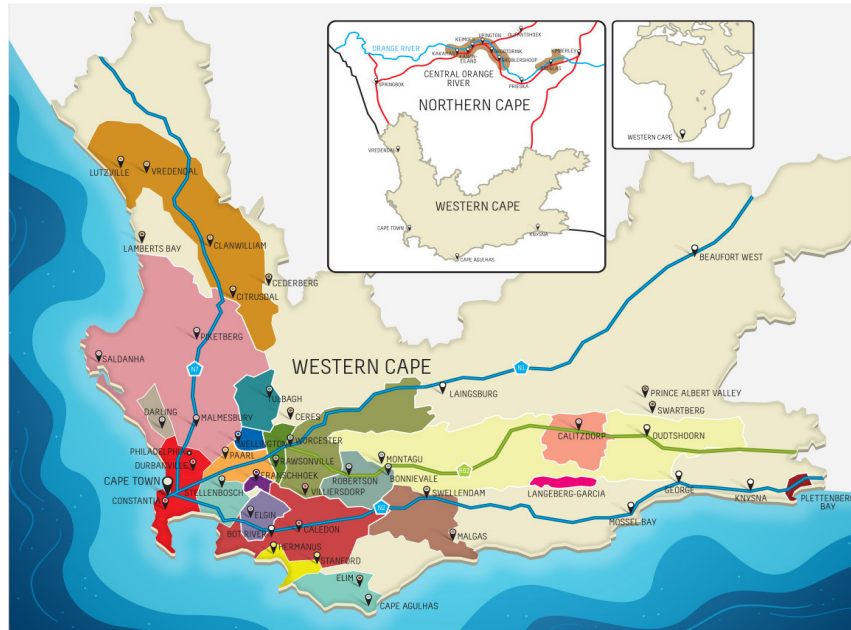
- Districts:
- BREEDEKLOOF
 - ROBERTSON
 - WORCESTER

WARDS NOT PART OF A REGION

- Districts:
- CEDERBERG
 - CERES
 - PRINCE ALBERT VALLEY
 - SWARTBERG

NORTHERN CAPE

- Districts:
- CENTRAL ORANGE RIVER



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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 R85.00 per bottle (750ml), R95 for champagne/MCC/Sparkling and R125 Magnums or larger.

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

*“Let us celebrate the occasion with wine and sweet words”
- Plautus*



APERITIF

Enjoy an Aperitif whilst you choose your meal and accompanying wine

Pierre Jourdan Ratafia 42
Chardonnay fortified with potstill Brandy made on the Estate, Haute Cabrière. Legendary winemaker of classic 'Champagne style' wines, Achim Von Arnim.
Region: Franschoek

WINE BY THE GLASS

WHITE WINES

Cederberg Chenin Blanc 2023 ** (V)** 180 ml (glass) 75
Beautiful layers of melon, grapefruit and fleshy white pear.
Region: Elim

Haute Cabrière Chardonnay/Pinot Noir 2023 **** 180 ml (glass) 75
77% Chardonnay, 23% Pinot Noir
A blush of pink, tropical fruit and citrus aromas follow through on the palate. An all time favourite.
Region: Franschoek

La Motte Sauvignon Blanc 2023 *(*) (V)** 180 ml (glass) 70
Crisp and fruity with ripe melon and gooseberry flavours.
Region: Franschoek

Leopards Leap Chenin 2023 *(*)** 180ml (glass) 55
A medium bodied, dry Chenin Blanc, made in a fresh fruity New World style
Region: Franschoek

Leopards Leap Chescato 2023 *** 180ml (glass) 55
Chenin 70% Moscato 30%
A gently sweet, versatile blend of Chenin Blanc and Moscato.
Region: Franschoek

Leopards Leap Chardonnay 2023 (V) *** 180ml (glass) 55
Well-rounded, the palate reveals flavours of ripe grapefruit and lemon zest, accompanied by lovely biscuit nuances that leave a lingering aftertaste.
Region: Franschoek

ROSE & BLANC DE NOIR

Jordan Dry Rose *(*) 2023** 180ml (glass) 90
Vibrant strawberry, raspberry fruit and fresh fynbos herbs.
Region: Stellenbosch

Cederberg Sustainable Rose 2023 *(*) (V)** 180 ml (glass) 65
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.
Region: Cederberg/Elim

Boschendal Blanc De Noir * 2023** 180ml (glass) 55
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.
Region: Franschoek

CAP CLASSIQUE

Boschendal Luxe Nectar NV **** 125 ml (glass) 90
A flourish of delicate bubbles brings forth the decadent crème brulee and almond biscotti deliciousness, balanced with alluring lemon cream and orange peel to finish with vibrant freshness and length.
Origin: Western Cape.

Boschendal Brut NV **** 125 ml (glass) 90
Pale gold with a flourish of delicate bubbles and enticing lemon cream precede lovely layers of citrus and a finish with appealing length and freshness.
Origin: Western Cape.

SPARKLING WINE

Alvi's Drift Brut Blanc De Blanc**** 125ml (glass) 70
Pale straw-coloured with lime green hues, bursting onto the palate with delightful aromas of fresh green apple and lemon zest.
Region: Worcester



RED WINES

Beaumont Jackals River Pinotage 2021 ****	180 ml (glass)	165
<i>A delicious mouthful. Pure fresh raspberries and red currants.</i>		
Region: Bot River		
Meinert Merlot 2019 ****	180 ml (glass)	135
<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		
Raats Dolomite Cabernet Franc 2021 *****	180 ml (glass)	125
<i>Cherries, pepper & smokey notes before a sweep of meaty red fruit – cranberries, ripe plums. Deliciously different.</i>		
Region: Stellenbosch		
La Motte Cabernet Sauvignon 2020 **** (V)	180 ml (glass)	98
<i>Fine floral bouquet, blackcurrant, plum and tobacco hints.</i>		
Region: Franschhoek		
Groenland Shiraz 2019 ****	180 ml (glass)	80
<i>Shows restraint and cool tones with savoury, dusty overlay; food style wine.</i>		
Region: Stellenbosch		
Jordan Chameleon Cabernet/Merlot 2022 ***	180 ml (glass)	68
<i>69% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot, 10% Shiraz</i>		
<i>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.</i>		
Region: Stellenbosch		
Leopards Leap Cabernet/Merlot 2023 ***	180ml (glass)	58
<i>Cabernet Sauvignon 85% Merlot 15%</i>		
<i>A medium bodied, gently wooded, red blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. Made in a ripe New World style.</i>		
Region: Franschhoek		

DESSERT WINES

Vondeling Sweet Carolyn 2022 ****(*)	50ml (glass)	115
<i>A golden to light amber colour with a perfumed nose of bright pineapple, ripe apricot, honeyed marmalade and seductive rose petal.</i>		
Region: Voor Paardeberg		
Tierhoek Straw Wine NV ****(*)	50ml (glass)	105
<i>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</i>		
Region: Citrusdal		
Beaumont Goute d'Or 2021 *****	50 ml (glass)	95
<i>An irresistible combination of honeyed Semillon, dusty botrytis and Sauvignon's refreshing elements.</i>		
Region: Bot Rivier		



CHAMPAGNE

Dom Perignon ■ ■	750 ml	6900
<i>W.O. Haute Villiers, since 1668. An intense, vibrant, tactile yet mature, complex, and sensual champagne - Delicious!</i>		
Region : Champagne (Epernay), France		
Moët & Chandon Rosé ■ ■	750 ml	1985
<i>W.O. Epernay. Intense and aromatic blend of Pinot Noir, Pinot Meunier and Chardonnay.</i>		
Region: Champagne (Epernay), France		
Veuve Clicquot Yellow Label ■ ■	750 ml	1950
<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		

CAP CLASSIQUE

Graham Beck Brut NV ****	750 ml	495
<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		
Boschendal Luxe Nectar NV ****	750ml	450
<i>A flourish of delicate bubbles brings forth the decadent crème brulee and almond biscotti deliciousness, balanced with alluring lemon cream and orange peel to finish with vibrant freshness and length.</i>		
Origin: Western Cape.		
Boschendal Brut NV ****	750ml	450
<i>Pale gold with a flourish of delicate bubbles and enticing lemon cream precede lovely layers of citrus and a finish with appealing length and freshness.</i>		
Origin: Western Cape.		
Krone Rosé Cuvée Brut 2022 ****	750 ml	425
<i>Sassy, refreshing and uplifting with hints of berry fruits, enticing less yeastiness and an innocently sensual mousse.</i>		
Region: Tulbach		
Simonsig Kaapse Vonkel Brut 2021 ****	750 ml	395
<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		

PROSECCO

Sartori Prosecco Brut ■ ■	750 ml	475
<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: Trevisio, Italy		
Zonin Millesimato Special Cuvee ■ ■	750 ml	395
<i>Dry and pleasantly fruity with a fresh, aromatic note on the finish, reveals an abundance of Almonds and hints of Citrus.</i>		
Region: Veneto		

SPARKLING WINES

Allure De- Alcoholised Sparkling	750 ml	315
<i>A beautiful de-alcoholised sparkling wine, made from Champagne grapes, Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, showcasing fresh stone fruit flavours and lively bubbles.</i>		
Region: Robertson		
Alvi's Drift Brut Blanc De Blanc****	750ml	265
<i>Pale straw-coloured with lime green hues, bursting onto the palate with delightful aromas of fresh green apple and lemon zest</i>		
Region: Worcester		
Leopard's Leap Sparkling Chardonnay Pinot Noir ***(*) (V)	750 ml	255
<i>This vivacious bubbly bursts with flavours of strawberry, raspberry and citrus.</i>		
Region: Franschoek		



WHITE WINES

SAUVIGNON BLANC

Cloudy Bay Sauvignon Blanc 2019 🇳🇿	1650
<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: Marlborough, New Zealand	
Cederberg Ghost Corner Wild Ferment 2022 ****(*) (V)	655
<i>Naturally fermented with enticing aromas of fleshy white pear and quince and a creaminess from barrel maturation.</i>	
Region: Cederberg/Elim	
Diemersdal Winter Ferment Sauvignon Blanc 2024 ****(*)	385
<i>A new world style of Sauvignon Blanc. After harvest, the juice is frozen at -20 degrees Celsius for 5 months. It's then thawed and fermented. Has intense aromas of gooseberries, tropical fruit and sweet grapefruit with a core of minerality.</i>	
Region: Durbanville	
La Motte Pierneef Sauvignon Blanc 2023 **** (Organically Grown) (V)	340
<i>Citrus, melon, green apple flavours, as well as green pepper & gooseberry flavours, with a mineral finish.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek	
Alleé Bleue Sauvignon Blanc 2022 ****	245
<i>This wine has delicate aromas of gooseberries, asparagus, pineapple and granadilla with a crisp, vibrant fruit finish.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek	
La Motte Sauvignon Blanc 2023 ***(*) (V)	230
<i>Engaging gooseberry followed by pineapple, lime and wild grass well balanced by a moderate acidity</i>	
Region: Franschhoek	
Leopard's Leap Sauvignon Blanc 2023 **(*) (V)	165
<i>Fresh with a lively tropical fruit character, green fig, pear and citrus with a crisp acidity.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek	

CHARDONNAY

Newton Johnson South End Chardonnay 2022 ****	515
<i>A classy, full-bodied Chardonnay. Fermented & matured in French oak for 8 months. Inviting citrus and vanilla flavours leave a lingering, crisp & dry finish.</i>	
Region: Hemel & Aarde Valley	
Thelema Sutherland Chardonnay 2021 ****	360
<i>Peach & spice upon entry, with a spicy mineral mid-palate & a textured finish, great balance & elegance.</i>	
Region: Elgin	
Springfield Wild Yeast Chardonnay (unwooded) 2023 ****	355
<i>Creamily rich texture, ripe tropical flavours simply fold into the mouth with stunning concentration.</i>	
Region: Robertson	
Vriesenhof Chardonnay Unwooded 2023 ****	245
<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	
Diemersdal Chardonnay 2023 ****(V)	205
<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	
Leopard's Leap Chardonnay 2023 **(*) (V)	165
<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	

CHENIN BLANC

Beaumont Hope Maguerite Chenin Blanc (Wooded) 2022 *****	870
<i>Absolute balance between fruit & oak. White peach, citrus & spice aromas at the for with a balance of oak, acidity & touch of minerality. Aged in new & used French oak for 10 months.</i>	
Region: Bot River	
Cederberg Five Generations Chenin Blanc 2022 ****(*)	715
<i>Beautiful layers of melon, grapefruit and fleshy white pear, with a mouth coating creaminess.</i>	
Region: Cederberg/Elim	



Raats Original Chenin Blanc 2023 ****(*)	335
<i>Uninhibited flavours of pineapple, golden delicious apple and citrus. Full mouth feel and lingering aromas.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch	
DeMorgenzen Chenin Blanc 2023 ****(*)	290
<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	
Cederberg Chenin Blanc 2023 **** (V)	245
<i>Beautiful layers of melon, grapefruit and fleshy white pear with mineral notes.</i>	
Region: Cederberg/Elim	
Leopards Leap Chenin 2023 ***(*)	165
<i>A medium bodied, dry Chenin Blanc, made in a fresh fruity New World style.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek	

WHITE BLENDS

Cederberg Ghost Corner The Bowline 2022 ****(*) (V)	618
<i>60% Sauvignon Blanc, 40% Semillon</i>	
<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	
DeMorgenzon Maestro White 2020 *****	480
<i>25% Roussanne, 24% Chenin Blanc, 23% Grenache Blanc, 14% Chardonnay, 14% Viognier</i>	
<i>Combination of concentrated orange and yellow stone fruits, with hints of spice, zesty citrus and blossoms.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch	
De Grendel Winifred 2023 ****(*)	460
<i>45% Semillon, 40% Chardonnay, 15% Viognier</i>	
<i>An exquisitely complex nose of Peach, Preserved Lemon, Honeycomb and Jasmine, with a zesty youthfulness.</i>	
Region: Durbanville	
Black Oystercatcher White Pearl 2019 ****(*)	395
<i>68% Semillon, 32% Sauvignon Blanc</i>	
<i>Great food wine, full bodied and complex.</i>	
Region: Elim	
Haute Cabrière Chardonnay/Pinot Noir 2022 ****	245
<i>77% Chardonnay, 23% Pinot Noir</i>	
<i>An abundance of zesty fruit, most notably white peach, lychee and red fruit; with a delectably full mouthfeel and balance.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek	
Leopards Leap Chescato 2023 ***	165
<i>Chenin 70% Moscato 30%</i>	
<i>A gently sweet, versatile blend of Chenin Blanc and Moscato.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek	

ROSÉ & BLANC DE NOIR

Jordan Dry Rosé ***(*) 2023	315
<i>Vibrant strawberry, raspberry fruit and fresh fynbos herbs.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch	
Cederberg Sustainable Rosé 2023 ***(*) (Organically grown) (V)	200
<i>Elegant aromas of strawberries, watermelon and candy floss, with a dry entry, a creamy palate and a crisp finish</i>	
Region: Cederberg/Elim	
Boschendal Blanc de Noir 2023 ***	170
<i>An appealing pale salmon colour leads to bright red fruit, strawberry and red berries. Good freshness, balance and drinkability.</i>	
<i>Crisp and dry, but with a pleasant hint of fruit sweetness.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek	

OTHER WHITE VARIETALS

Louis Latour Chablis 2021 ■ ■	1450
<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	
Boekenhoutskloof Semillon 2020 ****(*)	925
<i>Subtle and lessy, with some herbal and orange zest notes and a wild, naturally fermented undertone.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek	



Cederberg Sandpoort Sauvignon Gris 2023 ****(*)	825
<i>The pale, translucent colour creates luminosity in the glass with summer fruit flavours of pineapple, pear and ripe red apple.</i>	
Region: Cederberg/Elim	
Newton Johnson Albarino 2021 ****(*)	510
<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: Hemel & Aarde Valley	
Cederberg Bukettraube 2023 ***(*)	255
<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	
Oak Valley Stone & Steel Riesling 2021 ****(*)	240
<i>Dried apricot, jasmine and kerosene on the nose with pineapple, grapefruit and some lovely fennel savoury notes on the palate.</i>	
Region: Elgin	
Simonsig Gewürztraminer 2023 ***(*)	230
<i>Sweet aromatics and spice are beautifully balanced by fresh acidity and finesse, and extend onto the lingering honeyed spice finish.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch	

RED WINES

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Five Generations Cabernet Sauvignon 2020 ****(*)	1700
<i>French oak has intensified the rich aromas of blackcurrant and cassis, layered with decadent dark chocolate and cherry tobacco.</i>	
Region: Cederberg/Elim	
Thelema Cabernet Sauvignon 2020 ****(*) (V)	680
<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	
Jordan The Long Fuse Cabernet Sauvignon 2021 ****(*)	515
<i>Deep ruby colour, huge mouth filling flavours of blackberry, cassis and vanilla. French Oak barrels add a complex toastiness.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch	
La Motte Cabernet Sauvignon 2020 **** (V)	350
<i>Intense blackcurrant, violets, mint and fleshy plum with seamless oak integration.</i>	
Region: Franschhoek	
Groenland Cabernet Sauvignon 2019 ****	245
<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	

PINOTAGE

Steytler Pinotage 2020 ****(*)	1350
<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	
Wildeckrans Pinotage Barrel Selection 2021 ****(*)	845
<i>Full bodied yet smoothly structured. Toasty oak and sweetish finish detract from pretty raspberry undertones.</i>	
Region: Bot River	
Southern Right Pinotage 2021 **** (V)	775
<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	
Bernard Series Bush Vine Pinotage 2020 ****(*)	585
<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	
Beaumont Jackals River Pinotage 2021 ****	580
<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	



Mellat Sigma White Pinotage 2019 **** 285
The world's first White Pinotage. Making white wine from red grapes using South Africa's unique Pinotage grape. Barrel fermented and matured for eleven months with less stirring gives this wine a slightly creamy, nutty character to balance the tropical fruit and banana flavours.
 Region: Paarl

SHIRAZ

The Bernard Series Basket Press Syrah 2020 **(*)** 585
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

Cederberg Shiraz 2020 **(*) (V)** 570
Intense fruit flavours of mulberries, spice and cherries follow through leaving a silky smooth sensation.
 Region: Cederberg/Elim

De Grendel Shiraz 2021 **(*)** 445
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

Neil Ellis Groenekloof Syrah 2021 **(*)** 345
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

Groenland Shiraz Classic 2019 *** 245
This complex and traditional cultivar will tease your taste buds- on the palate with vanilla and smokey aromas.
 Region: Stellenbosch

Franschhoek Cellar Baker Station Shiraz 2021 **(*) 210
Brimming with exuberant mulberry and plum flavours, it has soft ripe tannins that provide a well-structured and balanced juicy finish.
 Region: Franschhoek

MERLOT

Meerlust Merlot 2020 **(*)** 950
Intense dark fruit on the nose, mulberry and damson plum with hints of dark chocolate and spice.
 Region: Stellenbosch

Vergelegen Merlot 2017 **(*)** 580
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

Meinert Merlot 2019 *(*)** 450
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

Franschhoek Cellar Old Museum Merlot 2022 **(*) 215
Soft and juicy with attractive plum and black cherry aromas intertwined with herbal tea, liquorice and gentle oak spice.
 Region: Franschhoek

Leopard's Leap Merlot 2022 *** 180
Packed with juicy mulberry and red cherry fruit characteristics with subtle spicy oak undertones and a long, smooth finish.
 Region: Franschhoek

PINOT NOIR

De Grendel Op Die Berg Pinot Noir 2021 **(*)** 645
Clear bright garnet colour with a plush array of fresh strawberries, ripe cherries and a hint of forest mushrooms.
 Region: Durbanville

Cederberg Ghost Corner Pinot Noir 2022 **(*) (V)** 625
Red fruit of ripe cherries and raspberries and an undertone of earthy, mushroom nuances with delicate oak.
 Region: Elim

Oak Valley Sound of Silence Pinot Noir 2021 **** 330
Dried strawberry, cured meats and potpourri on the nose with beetroot and cranberry on the palate.
 Region: Elgin



Paul Clüver Village Pinot Noir 2023 *(*)** 310

Classic, evocative garnet colour with aromas of dark fruit and wild bush.

Region: Elgin

OTHER RED VARIETALS

Margaux Private Selection 2019 ■ ■ 1250

A perfumey nose with intense black berry flavours and fair oak structure. It has lots of tannins which cloak the fruit flavours.

Region: Bordeaux, France

Marques De Riscal Reserva Rioja 2018 ■ 1150

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.

Country: Spain, Rioja Alavesa

Treinspoor 2020 **(*)** 965

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.

Region: Swartland – Malmesbury

Soldaat 2021 ***** 945

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.

Region: Citrusdal

E. Guigal Cotes du Rhone 2018 ■ ■ 750

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.

Region: Rhone Valley, France

Neil Ellis Piekenierskloof Grenache 2018 **(*)** 735

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.

Region: Stellenbosch, Piekenierskloof

Steenberg Nebbiolo 2017 **(*)** 590

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.

Region: Constantia

Paul Wallace Black Dog Malbec 2020 **(*)** 510

Exotic nose with hints of black plums, blue and black berries, bramble, rhubarb, violets and a touch of cumin. A satisfying fruit-filled mouthful of dark fruits linked by a herbal element and held together by rounded, silky tannins.

Region: Elgin

Lost Boy Cinsault 2023 465

A vibrant, aromatic red, crafted using Beaujolais techniques. This lighter, elegant wine is bursting with cherry and bubble gum aromas.

Region: Paarl

Raats Dolomite Cabernet Franc 2021 **(*)** 415

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.

Region: Stellenbosch

Zorgvliet Petit Verdot 2020 **** 395

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.

Region: Stellenbosch

De Krans Tinta Roriz 2019 *(*)** 365

Full bodied red with savoury spice and earthiness. Soft red fruit flavours and chewy tannins.

Region: Calitzdorp

Diemersdal Malbec 2023 *(*)** 340

A concentrated wine with ripe black fruit and spicy undertones, a mineral core and a juicy finish.

Region: Durbanville

De Krans Touriga Nacional 2018 *(*)** 320

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.


Region: Calitzdorp



RED WINE MAGNUMS

Meerlust Rubicon 2016 ****(*)	(V)	1.5l Magnum	2900
67% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Merlot, 12% Cabernet Franc, 7% Petit Verdot <i>From the Directors Cellar. Exotic aromas of plum, sandalwood and a touch of creamy vanilla with cassis and mulberry flavours.</i> Region: Stellenbosch			
Grangehurst Nikela 2008 ****		1.5l Magnum	1600
35% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Pinotage, 23% Shiraz, 8% Merlot <i>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			
Cederberg Shiraz 2013 ****		1.5l Magnum	1350
<i>A complex Shiraz filled with intense red fruit, mulberry and cherries on the nose.</i> Region: Cederberg/Elim			
Rupert and Rothschild Classique 2017 ****(V)		1.5l Magnum	1150
50% Merlot, 35% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Cabernet Franc <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			
La Motte Shiraz 2020****		1.5l Magnum	945
<i>Luscious fruit, rich and complex flavours of plums, vanilla and spice.</i> Region: Franschhoek			
Vondeling Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot 2005 ****		1.5l Magnum	735
65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot <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			

RED BLENDS

Mvemve Raats de Compostella 2020 *****		4500
41% Cabernet Franc, 19% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Malbec, 14% Merlot, 9% Petit Verdot <i>Wonderfully balanced Bordeaux blend. Deep, dark, intense ruby colour, aromas of crushed black plum and hints of cigar smoke.</i> <i>Rich and bold with mineral black berry fruit & bittersweet cocoa notes on the finish.</i> Region: Stellenbosch		
Buitenverwachting Christine 2016 ****(*)		1200
47% Cabernet Sauvignon, 29% Cabernet Franc, 11% Merlot, 8% Petit Verdot, 5% Malbec <i>From the Director's Cellar. Merlot, cab franc and malbec, offers rich deep cassis & cherry fruit. Spicy cedar minerals.</i> <i>A touch leaner than previous, but nicely zesty.</i> Region: Constantia		
Frescobaldi Nipozzano Riserva Chianti 2018		985
90% Sangiovese, 4% Malvasia Nera, 2% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Colorino, 2% Merlot <i>A crunchy Rùfina mainly from 1970s Sangiovese vines with dashes of both local heritage and international varieties, too. Fermentation in stainless steel precedes 24 months in concrete and large, second-fill oak vats. Its bright scarlet hues mirror equally bright and deliciously savoury fruit. The compact palate provides coherent interplay between fruit and tannin with no sense of overripeness or oaky angularity. It's mouthwatering now, but resist so its texture evens out fully.</i> Region: Tuscany, Italy		
Bernard Series Small Barrel SMV 2019 ****(*)		800
<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		
Bouchard Finlayson Hannibal 2020 ****(*)		795
42% Sangiovese, 17% Nebbiolo, 15% Pinot Noir, 12% Shiraz, 7% Mourvedre, 7% Barbera <i>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.</i> Region: Hermanus		
Raats Jasper Red Blend (Bordeaux) 2021 ****		615
53% Cabernet Franc; 36% Malbec; 5% Merlot; 3% Cabernet Sauvignon and 3% Petit Verdot <i>Bordeaux - style 5-way blend with 53% cab franc, Body expressive follows illustrious line. Haunting mineral notes, nervously poised leaf & earth undertones combine with impressive balance & silky texture.</i> Region: Stellenbosch		
The Chocolate Block 2022 ****(*)		575
71% Syrah, 11% Grenache, 9% Cinsault, 8% Cabernet Sauvignon, 1% Viognier <i>This wine has a gorgeous nose that expresses abundant floral perfume supported by cedar, redcurrent, black pepper, coriander and suggestions of Turkish Delight. This wine is poised and textured.</i> Region: Franschhoek		



Rustenberg John X Merriman 2022 ****(*)	565
<i>50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 41% Merlot, 5% Malbec, 3% Petit Verdot, 1% Cabernet Franc</i>	
<i>Glossy high-toned ripeness presently accompanied by persistent grip.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch	
Groenland Steenkamp 2018 ****(*)	545
<i>50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 50% Merlot</i>	
<i>Full bodied, fruity wine with black pepper, nut and berry aromas on the nose. The tannins are well structured and in perfect harmony.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch	
Rupert & Rothschild Classique 2020 (V)	465
<i>50% Merlot, 35% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Cabernet Franc</i>	
<i>Nuances of fresh cranberry and wild black cherry which evolves into delicate hazelnut truffle chocolate with a silky, smooth lingering texture. Recommended with seared Springbok loin, braised Springbok shoulder and aromatic potato pudding with a gastrique of port cherry and puffed barley.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch	
Brampton The Roxton 2019 ***(*)	365
<i>84% Petit Verdot, 10% Shiraz, 6% Malbec</i>	
<i>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.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch	
Cederberg Merlot/Shiraz 2021 ***(*) (V)	285
<i>70% Merlot, 30% Shiraz</i>	
<i>The entry captures an abundance of red berries and dark fruits. succulent cherries, cranberries, sweet plums and hints of chocolate, leather and spice.</i>	
Region: Cederberg/Elim	
Jordan Chameleon Cabernet/Merlot 2022 ***	205
<i>69% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot, 10% Shiraz</i>	
<i>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.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch	
Leopards Leap Cabernet/Merlot 2023 ***	180
<i>Cabernet Sauvignon 85% Merlot 15%</i>	
<i>A medium bodied, gently wooded, red blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. Made in a ripe New World style.</i>	
Region: Franschoek	

DESSERT WINES

Vondeling Sweet Carolyn 2022 ****(*)	(375ml)	595
<i>A golden to light amber colour with a perfumed nose of bright pineapple, ripe apricot, honeyed marmalade and seductive rose petal.</i>		
Region: Voor Paardeberg		
Tierhoek Straw Wine NV ****	(375ml)	565
<i>An unctuous wine of immense flavours of dried apricots and honey.</i>		
<i>Wonderful clean finish on the palate with fine balance of sweetness and fresh natural fruit acidity</i>		
Region: Citrusdal		
Beaumont Goute d'Or 2021 ****	(375ml)	480
<i>An irresistible combination of honeyed Semillion, dusty botrytis.</i>		
Region: Bot River		

PORT

Muratie Ben Prins Cape Vintage 2021****	50 ml (glass)	60
<i>Floral notes of violets and roses entice along with Christmas spice and plum pudding.</i>		
Region: Stellenbosch		
De Krans Cape Tawny Limited Release NV ****(*)	50 ml (glass)	48
<i>Beautiful orange sapphire in colour with elegant flavours of caramel, toffee, roasted nuts and fruitcake.</i>		
Region: Calitzdorp		
Allesverloren Fine Old Vintage	50 ml (glass)	32
<i>Deep ruby red. Freshly picked grapes with a hint of cinnamon and spice. A velvety and rich wine with a soft and smooth lingering fruitcake finish.</i>		
Region: Riebeeck West		



DIRECTOR'S RESERVE LIST

RED WINES

Kanonkop Paul Sauer 2015 *****	3750
<i>70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Cabernet Franc, 12% Merlot</i>	
<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.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch	
Raats Cabernet Franc 2012 ****	3300
<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	
Luddite Shiraz 2008 ****	2300
<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	
Veenwouden Classic 2000 ****(*)	1950
<i>50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc, 5% Malbec</i>	
<i>From the Directors Cellar. The benchmark Bordeaux blend, soigné black currants and pencil shavings, sustain flavours in classic structure – SUPERB!</i>	
Region: Paarl	
Meerlust Rubicon 2015 ****(*)	1650
<i>49% Cabernet Sauvignon, 28% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc, 3% Petit Verdot</i>	
<i>From the Director's Cellar. Cassis & graphite whiffs, plush yet lithe and restrained, with good grip from 69 % cab with merlot and cab franc.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch	
Stellenzicht Syrah 2002 ****(*)	1055
<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	
Rust en Vrede Cabernet Sauvignon 2007 ****	985
<i>Herbal tone with ripe cassis checked by dry, firm tannins from 18 months French oak.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch	
Ernie Els Meritage Reserve 2014 ****	530
<i>Cabernet Franc 47% Malbec 29% Merlot 18% Cabernet Sauvignon 6%</i>	
<i>The poised blue fruit and violet floral notes lead to a dense and black fruited core. Laced with toasty oak notes and a hint of earthy underbush and vibrant red and black fruits.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch	



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.

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.

BLIND TASTING

Tasting and evaluating wine without knowing what it is.

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.

BRUT

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

CARBONIC MACERATION

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

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.

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.

DRY

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

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.

FREE RUN

Juice obtained from grapes that have not been pressed.

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.

MOUTHFEEL

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

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.

PALATE

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

PLONK

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



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.

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.

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.

YOUNG

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

