



THE SANDS
@ S t F r a n c i s
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
ST FRANCIS BAY - SOUTH AFRICA
Our Wine List

Diners Club Platinum Award Winner: 2023, 2022, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015

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.



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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 and Android via the App Store and Google Play.



"Language is wine upon the lips" - Virginia Woolf

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 21 ST 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.



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
- FRANSSCHHOEK 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

BREEDER VALLEY

Districts:

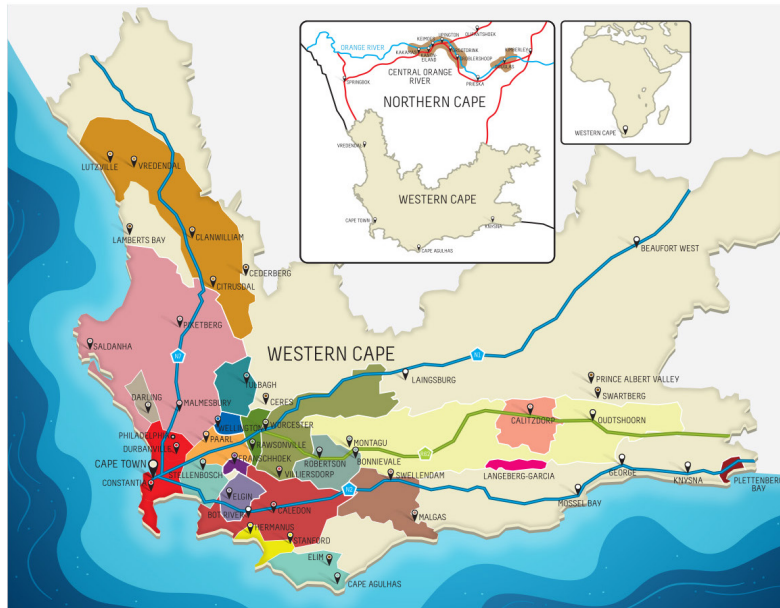
- BREEDEKLOOF
- ROBERTSON
- WORCESTER

WARDS NOT PART OF A REGION

- CEDERBERG
- CERES
- PRINCE ALBERT VALLEY
- SWARTBERG

NORTHERN CAPE

- CENTRAL ORANGE RIVER (District)



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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 Gourmet Food Pairings.

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

Pierre Jourdan Tranquille 2023 ***(*) (V)

180 ml (glass) 62

A delicious light summer wine, fragrant bouquet with fine fruit and dry finish. Classic dry salmon-coloured.

Region: Franschoek

Leopard's Leap Chescato

180 ml (glass) 55

70% Chenin Blanc, 30% Muscat

Fruity melon and pineapple, lusciously sweet.

Region: Franschoek

Rosé

Jordan Dry Rosé ***(*) 2023

180ml (glass) 90

Vibrant Strawberry, raspberry fruit and fresh fynbos herbs.

Region: Stellenbosch

Cederberg Sustainable Rosé 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

Sparkling Wine

Alleé Bleue Sauvignon Blanc 2022 ****

180 ml (glass) 75

This wine has delicate aromas of gooseberries, asparagus, pineapple and granadilla with a crisp, vibrant fruit finish

Region: Franschoek



Red Wines

Meinert Merlot 2019 ****

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.

Region: Stellenbosch

180 ml (glass) 135

Groenland Shiraz 2019 ****

Shows restraint and cool tones with savoury, dusty overlay; food style wine.

Region: Stellenbosch

180 ml (glass) 80

Jordan Chameleon Cabernet/Merlot 2022 ***

69% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot, 10% Shiraz

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

180 ml (glass) 68

Dessert Wine

Beaumont Goute d'Or 2021 ****

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

Region: Bot Rivier

50 ml (glass) 95



Champagne

Dom Perignon ■ ■	750 ml	6600
<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		
Moët & Chandon NV Brut Imperial ■ ■	750 ml	1700
<i>W.O. Epernay. Fine and elegant with a delicious biscuity aroma and flavour.</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		
Pongraz Noble Nectar Demi Sec****	750 ml	370
<i>Made in the Classic French tradition of secondary bottle fermentation, this elegant medium - sweet Méthode Cap Classique is a touch of pure indulgence .</i>		
Region: Western Cape		

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: Treviso, Italy		

Sparkling Wine

Pierre Jourdan Cuvée Belle Rosé ***(*) (V)	750 ml	395
<i>A crisp elegant flavour with pinprick bubbles.</i>		
Region: Franschhoek		
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		
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: Franschhoek		



Alleé Bleue Sauvignon Blanc 2022 **** 245
This wine has delicate aromas of gooseberries, asparagus, pineapple and granadilla with a crisp, vibrant fruit finish
Region: Franschhoek

White Wines

Sauvignon Blanc

Cederberg Ghost Corner Wild Ferment 2022 **(*) (V)** 655
Naturally fermented with enticing aromas of fleshy white pear and quince and a creaminess from barrel maturation.
Region: Cederberg/Elim

Jordan The Cold Fact Sauvignon Blanc 2022 **** 295
Vigorous gooseberry/grassy scents. Steely, brisk medium-bodied, excellent flavour, long, dry finish.
Region: Stellenbosch

La Motte Sauvignon Blanc 2023 *(*) (V)** 230
Engaging gooseberry followed by pineapple, lime and wild grass well balanced by a moderate acidity
Region: Franschhoek

Jordan Chameleon Sauvignon Blanc 175
67% Sauvignon Blanc, 21% Chardonnay, 12% Chenin Blanc
Ripe Cape green fig Sauvignon Blanc and zesty, citrus-melon unoaked Chardonnay, balanced by a long creamy finish.
Region: Stellenbosch

Chardonnay

Thelema Sutherland Chardonnay 2021 **** 360
Peach & spice upon entry, with a spicy mineral mid-palate & a textured finish, great balance & elegance.
Region: Elgin

Springfield Wild Yeast Chardonnay (unwooded) 2023 **** 355
Creamily rich texture, ripe tropical flavours simply fold into the mouth with stunning concentration.
Region: Robertson

Diemersdal Chardonnay 2023 ** (V)** 205
Spicy aromas with fresh fruit flavours. The nose is elegant, with the richness of the fruit enhanced by apple & sweet melon.
Region: Durbanville

Chenin Blanc

Vrede en Lust Kogelberg Chenin Blanc 2021 **** 470
Full-bodied wine with tropical fruit character of Chenin. Palate is rich with hints of honey and ripe fruit..
Region: Paarl

Raats Original Chenin Blanc 2023 **(*)** 335
Uninhibited flavours of pineapple, golden delicious apple and citrus. Full mouth feel and lingering aromas.
Region: Stellenbosch

Cederberg Chenin Blanc 2022 ** (V)** 245
Beautiful layers of melon, grapefruit and fleshy white pear with mineral notes
Region: Cederberg/Elim



White Blends

Cederberg Ghost Corner The Bowline 2022 ****(*) (V)	618
60% Sauvignon Blanc, 40% Semillon <i>Green fig and dusty elements from Semillon complement the ripe asparagus notes from the sauvignon blanc. Complex wine with well-balanced oak.</i> Region: Cederberg/Elim	
Springfield Miss Lucy 2023 ****	335
Vineyard 58% Sauvignon Blanc 28% Semillon 18% Pinot Gris <i>Unique blend of Sauvignon Blanc, Semillon and Pinot Gris bursts with citrus pamplemousse flavours and full mouth feel.</i> Region: Robertson	
Haute Cabrière Chardonnay/Pinot Noir 2022 ****	245
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: Franschoek	
Pierre Jourdan Tranquille 2023	175
55% Pinot Noir, 45% Chardonnay <i>A delicious light summer wine, fragrant bouquet with fine fruit and dry finish. Classic dry salmon-coloured.</i> Region: Franschoek	
Leopard's Leap Chescato	165
70% Chenin Blanc, 30% Muscat <i>Enjoy flavours of ripe guava joined by whiffs of almond and a decadent caramel mouth feel.</i> Region: Franschoek	

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. Crisp and dry, but with a pleasant hint of fruit sweetness.</i> Region: Franschoek	

Other White Varietals

Boekenhoutskloof Semillon 2020 ****(*)	925
<i>Subtle and lessy, with some herbal and orange zest notes and a wild, naturally fermented undertone.</i> Region: Franschoek	
Cederberg Bukettraube 2023 ***(*)	255
<i>An explosion of aroma and flavour. Prominent Muscat flavours with apricot and floral notes on the nose. A well-balanced wine with a delicate sweetness and a crisp acidity.</i> Region: Cederberg/Elim	



Simonsig Gewürztraminer 2023 *(*)** **230**
Sweet aromatics and spice are beautifully balanced by fresh acidity and finesse, and extend onto the lingering honeyed spice finish.
Region: Stellenbosch

Red Wines

Cabernet Sauvignon

Five Generations Cabernet Sauvignon 2020 **(*)** **1700**
French oak has intensified the rich aromas of blackcurrant and cassis, layered with decadent dark chocolate and cherry tobacco.
Region: Cederberg/Elim

Jordan The Long Fuse Cabernet Sauvignon 2021 **(*)** **515**
Deep ruby colour, huge mouth filling flavours of blackberry, cassis and vanilla. French Oak barrels add a complex toastiness.
Region: Stellenbosch

Groenland Cabernet Sauvignon 2019 **** **245**
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.
Region: Stellenbosch

Pinotage

Wildeckrans Pinotage Barrel Selection 2021 **(*)** **845**
Full bodied yet smoothly structured. Toasty oak and sweetish finish detract from pretty raspberry undertones.
Region: Bot River

Southern Right Pinotage 2021 **(V)** **775**
Intense classically styled, clay-grown wine, packed with complex berry fruit, beautiful tannins and subtle wood spice. Full ripeness and the longer hang-time afforded by cooler sites.
Region: Hermanus

Beaumont Jackals River Pinotage 2021 **** **580**
The wine shows intense plum and chocolate nose, with cherry tobacco and cedar wood. Tannins are soft and well balanced. Has a full palate with exceptionally long after-taste.
Region: Bot River

Shiraz

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 Shiraz 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



Merlot

Meerlust Merlot 2020 ****(*)	950
<i>Intense dark fruit on the nose, mulberry and damson plum with hints of dark chocolate and spice.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch	
Vergelegen Merlot 2017 ****(*)	580
<i>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.</i>	
Region: Somerset West	
Meinert Merlot 2019 ***(*)	450
<i>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.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch	
Leopard's Leap Merlot 2022 ***	180
<i>Packed with juicy mulberry and red cherry fruit characteristics with subtle spicy oak undertones and a long, smooth finish.</i>	
Region: Franschoek	

Pinot Noir

Cederberg Ghost Corner Pinot Noir 2022 ****(*) (V)	625
<i>Red fruit of ripe cherries and raspberries and an undertone of earthy, mushroom nuances with delicate oak.</i>	
Region: Elim	
Oak Valley Sound of Silence Pinot Noir 2021 ****	330
<i>Dried strawberry, cured meats and potpourri on the nose with beetroot and cranberry on the palate.</i>	
Region: Elgin	

Red Wine Magnums

Meerlust Rubicon 2016 ****(*) (V)	1.5l Magnum	2900
<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		



Red Blends

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	
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	
Rustenberg John X Merriman 2022 ****(*)	565
50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 41% Merlot, 5% Malbec, 3% Petit Verdot, 1% Cabernet Franc	
<i>Glossy high-toned ripeness presently accompanied by persistent grip.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch	
Ataraxia Serenity 2020 ****	560
<i>Cinsault, Pinotage and Pinot Noir.</i>	
<i>Finely scented vibrant nose with beautifully lifted dark berry fruit and intriguing mineral and spicy notes.</i>	
Region: Hemel-en-aarde Ridge Winemaker: Kevin Grant	
Cederberg Merlot/Shiraz 2021 ***(*) (V)	285
70% Merlot, 30% Shiraz	
<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 2020 ***	190
69% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot, 10% Shiraz	
<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	

Other Red Varietals

Neil Ellis Piekenierskloof Vineyard Selection Grenache 2018 ****(*)	735
<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: Piekenierskloof	
Raats Dolomite Cabernet Franc 2020 ****(*)	415
<i>Cherries, pepper & smokey notes before sweep of meaty red fruit – cranberries , ripe plums. Deliciously different.</i>	
Region: Stellenbosch	
Zorgvliet Petit Verdot 2020 ****	395
<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	



Dessert Wines

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

(375ml)

565

Beaumont Goute d'Or 2021 ****

An irresistible combination of honeyed Semillion, dusty botrytis.

Region: Bot River

(375ml)

480

Port

Allesverloren Fine Old Vintage

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.

Region: Riebeeck West

50ml (glass)

32



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 Cuvaision.

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.

