



Wines of
**South
Africa**
welcome to our world of discovery





WE MAKE WINE **BETTER**

IN SOUTH AFRICA, WE'RE DOING A LOT OF THINGS BETTER. BETTER THAN OTHERS DO, BETTER THAT WE USED TO DO. SOMETIMES WE'VE HAD TO CATCH UP, AND OTHER TIMES WE'VE MADE GOOD USE OF A HEAD START. EITHER WAY, WE'VE EARNED THE WORLD'S RESPECT FOR MANY REASONS, NOT LEAST FOR OUR WINES.

WE MAKE THE MOST OF OUR FUTURE

The South African wine industry takes its environmental and social responsibilities seriously. Thanks to the Biodiversity and Wine Initiative (BWI), which was disbanded in 2015 and restructured as the WWF-SA Conservation Champions, more of our winelands have been set aside for conservation than the total area under vineyard. Almost all producers farm according to Integrated Production of Wine guidelines to manage water resources and ensure sustainable growing methods.

Historical wrongs are being addressed: The Wine Industry Ethical Trade Association (WIETA) is committed to improving the working and living conditions of employees in the South African industry. In 2012, WIETA began certifying wines that meet its strict standards of ethics and fairness. These wines qualify to display WIETA's Certified Fair Labour Practice seal, and it's hoped that 100% of South Africa's wines will qualify by 2025. Meanwhile, the Fairtrade Foundation invests in projects such as housing for workers, daycare centres, adult education classes and pension schemes. It's rather significant that South Africa produces the most Fairtrade wines in the world.

These principles have vastly expanded our definition of quality. While the Wine of Origin (WO) scheme has certified the origin, vintage and variety of wines since 1973, the Integrity and Sustainability seal takes the concept of 'good wine' even further. Introduced in 2010, this world first guarantees the wine's environmental and social credentials according to measureable, auditable criteria, while making it possible to trace the wine all the way back to the vineyard.

**INTEGRITY &
SUSTAINABILITY**



WINE AND SPIRIT BOARD
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WE MAKE THE MOST OF OUR HISTORY

Despite our blemished past – and perhaps also because of it – we’ve emerged as a strong, peaceful democracy. Nobel Peace Prize winning icons such as Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu are shining lights of humanity.

When it comes to winemaking, we draw on a rich history that goes back over 350 years and includes Dutch, German, Italian and French influences. It’s a history that embraces all the best traditions of Old World wines, while still exploring New World styles. Our wines have always been appreciated. Recently, they’ve become increasingly admired. Today, great strides are being made by the South African wine industry to promote and encourage inclusion, implement research initiatives and ultimately take our rightful place as one of the top wine producing regions in the world, all the while being mindful of our environment.

BY CONSIDERING THE CONSEQUENCES OF HOW WE WORK AND THINKING AHEAD FOR THE NEXT GENERATIONS, WE’RE NOT JUST MAKING BETTER WINE, WE’RE ALSO MAKING WINE BETTER.

WE MAKE THE MOST OF THE CAPE WINELANDS

Anyone who’s visited the Cape Winelands will tell you that they’re the most beautiful in the world. The various wine routes – over 19 of them – are set in constantly changing, but always breathtaking landscapes. And they’re accessible, too, with many being less than an hour’s drive from Cape Town. Along them you’ll find the world’s best hotels and guesthouses, spas, golf courses and restaurants. And, of course, hundreds of vineyards, wineries and estates. It’s well worth a visit, but if that’s not possible, you can always enjoy some of our many wines.

They’re not just good. They’re better.



WE MAKE THE MOST OF NATURE

Over 95% of South African wines are produced within the Cape Floral Kingdom, a region in the country's south-western corner that is the smallest, but richest plant kingdom in the world, with more plant species than in the entire northern hemisphere.

This natural wealth is a result of the region's unique landscape: 500 million year old soils (the oldest in the world) are rich with life and diversity; the Atlantic Ocean off our west coast and the Indian Ocean to the east bring sea breezes, mist and fog; mountain slopes and valleys offer micro- and macroclimates with varying degrees of sunshine, shade and shelter.

IN SHORT, THE RANGE AND DIVERSITY OF THE LANDSCAPE IS SPECTACULAR. IT PRESENTS EXCELLENT WINEMAKING OPPORTUNITIES AND OFFERS WINEMAKERS INCREDIBLE 'RAW MATERIALS' WITH WHICH TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES.

MAKING THE MOST OF VARIETY

An impressive range of grapes is cultivated in South Africa. The major red-wine varieties are Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Pinot Noir, Shiraz and the uniquely South Africa Pinotage, which is a cross of Pinot Noir and Hermitage. The most favoured white-wine varieties are Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Semillon, Viognier and Chenin Blanc, our most widely planted grape. In fact, South Africa has the most Chenin plantings anywhere in the world.

Over a dozen other varieties add to winemakers' and wine lovers' options. So it's not surprising that South Africa is also noted for its sweet dessert and fortified wines, plus Méthode Cap Classique sparkling wines, made according to the traditional Champenoise method.



WINE GROWING AREAS OF SOUTH AFRICA

WESTERN CAPE

COASTAL REGION DISTRICTS

- CAPE TOWN
- DARLING
- FRANSCHHOEK VALLEY
- PAARL
- STELLENBOSCH
- SWARTLAND
- TULBACH
- WELLINGTON

CAPE SOUTH COAST DISTRICTS

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

KLEIN KAROO DISTRICTS

- KLEIN KAROO
- CALITZDORP
- LANGEBERG-GARCIA

OLIFANTS RIVER DISTRICTS

- CITRUSDAL MOUNTAIN
- CITRUSDAL VALLEY
- LUTZVILLE VALLEY

BREEDE RIVER VALLEY DISTRICTS

- BREEDEKLOOF
- ROBERTSON
- WORCESTER

WARDS NOT PART OF A REGION

- CERES
- CEDERBERG
- LAMBERTS BAY
- PRINCE ALBERT VALLEY
- SWARTBERG

NORTHERN CAPE

- CENTRAL ORANGE RIVER (WARD)



Wines of South Africa (WoSA), a not-for-profit organisation owned by the South African wine industry, promotes the export of all South African wines by building Brand South Africa.



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