

Craven Wines

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 Owner(s): Mick and Jeanine Craven
 Winemaker(s): Mick and Jeanine Craven
 WO: Stellenbosch



Vintage Score best drinking

Clairette Blanche

RR

2017: yellow fruited, quite pale, floral and fruity if fleeting.	2017	84	2017-2024
2018: deeper hues and very dry, with a salty green fruit mineral tang, not fruit driven, but with character, style and class.	2018	87	2018-2026

Karibib Chenin Blanc

RRR

2017: dry and firm, needing time to show white pear and peach and crisp apple notes.	2017	88	2017-2027
2018: orange peel and caramel nose, then piercing fine fruit, pineapple, mandarin and damp straw, totally delicious, long, layered and compelling.	2018	92	2019-2029
2019: muted compared to 2018, delicate and soft, yet revealing fine and pristine fruit notes, could be a classic in time. Will open and improve.	2019	91	2021-2030
2020: initial musty lees notes need to air before tangy dry orange peel and lemon curd complexity, classy and full of character.	2020	92	2021-2030

Pinot Gris

RR

2018: just pink, with rosewater notes and a dry, floral base, not overly spicy or viscous.	2018	85	2017-2025
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2019: deeper cherry hue than previously, with overt ripe, almost confected nose, then strawberry marshmallow notes, nicely finishing dry.

2019 86 2019-2026

Stellenbosch Chardonnay RR

2020: forward and zesty and fruit driven, green tinged, a lees hint but pristine and focussed lemon meringue, sherbet and lime punch, delicious.

2020 92 2022-2029

Blue Gum Grove Chardonnay RRR

2019: funky nose then linear and very fresh fruit, lighter 12.5% alcohol and lemony citrus notes, rapier-like precision and clarity.

2019 91 2020-2028

Rustenhof Cinsault RRR

2017: quite pale and elegant, with ripe sweet fruit, all dry red berry punch with good acid balance.

2017 85 2017-2026

2018: tight and precise cranberry noted, with light feel (12.5% alcohol) and great acid balance, clean and zippy and satisfying.

2018 89 2018-2027

2019: delightfully succulent and full of red berry compote elegance, a stylish and silky wine.

2019 92 2020-2028

Faure Vineyard Pinot Noir RRR

2017: bright and rather brittle, with straw earth and red berry focus, sweetly fruited and attractive.

2017 87 2017-2027

2018: perhaps needing time as the acid balance is toward taut and brusque, hiding precise cherry notes and some elegance.

2018 87 2020-2028

Karibib Cabernet Sauvignon

RRR

2019: whole-bunch juiciness and light (12.5%) alcohol make this agile, black fruited, supple wine very drinkable.	2019 90 2019-2028
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The Firs Syrah

RRR

2016: zippy red fruit with tight acid balance, definitely not a New World pepper and spice version, quite lean and restrained and linear.	2016 88 2017-2026
2017: grippy and very dry in youth, with mixed black and red berries in a light and fragrant style.	2017 88 2017-2027
2019: low (12.5%) alcohol and some lighter styled dark and red winter fruits, not so spicy but supple, accessible and seductive.	2019 90 2020-2029

Faure Vineyard Syrah

RRR

2017: mid depth and hue, with dark sweet fruit impact, alluring and compelling just needing time to open. Will improve.	2018 89 2019-2029
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