

Guardian Peak Wines

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Owner(s): Jean Engelbrecht

Winemaker(s): Philip van Staden

WO; Stellenbosch / Western Cape / Wellington / Olifants River



Vintage Score best drinking

Sauvignon Blanc R

	2008 88 2008-2014
2018: light and brief, with mineral grip opening to tropical fruit hints.	2018 81 2017-2024
2019: mid weight with pale lemon green tinge and grapefruit and greengage crunch, not too crisp, but doesn't linger.	2019 84 2019-2025
2020: pleasantly fruity and not too forward, with mixed summer flavours, kiwi, gooseberry soft lime and flinty note, easy drinking.	2020 85 2020-2026
2021: lots of slate mineral dryness with gentle citrus palate, easy and enjoyable and good value.	2021 85 2021-2027

Hangbrug Chenin Blanc RR

2018: straw hue, shy nose then lovely textured marzipan and dried peach with pineapple, bright, assertive but fades too soon.	2018 88 2018-2028
2019: the paleness belies its rich and fully textured palate, lots of orange and melon and clean, balanced acidity, delicious.	2019 93 2020-2029

Donkiesbaai Steen RRR

2011: very pale, subtle nose then lush tropical fruit. Soft, silky with good acid support , walnuts and herbs. Not overly malic.	2011	89	2012-2021
2018: glossy straw, apricot and nectarine impact, quite nicely oily and rich with almost leesy depths, complex and delicious.	2018	93	2019-2029
2019: shy nose then nicely weighted crisp citrus fruit, brief, but in time will show richness and length.	2019	88	2021-2029

Moederkerk Chardonnay RR

2017: shy nose, restrained wood, delicate and elegant, fine but not forward.	2017	83	2017-2024
2018: lees hint then slowly opening yellow fruits, wood tannins and a clean more precise finish. Needs time.	2018	89	2020-2027
2019: lighter style with lemony fruit and mineral bluntness, crisp green notes come through with hidden wood support.	2019	89	2019-2028

Donkiesbaai Grenache Blanc RRR

2020: pongy nose then full mouthfeel, ripe and bold dry fruits, textured and with oak structure, memorable.	2020	91	2020-2027
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Rosé RR

2011: pale salmon, very dry, strawberry sweet and soft fruit. Nice mouthfeel.	2011	83	2011-2014
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Donkiesbaai Pinot Noir RRR

2016: not confected or overly fruited, but finely tuned, deft and elegant, subtle power and fruit purity.	2016	93	2017-2028
2019: shiny garnet hue, ripe fruit attractive nose, sweet	2019	92	2020-2029

summer berry notes but nicely dry, rich and layered,
very good.

Donkiesbaai Grenache

RRR

2019: pale shine and juicy, bright red fruits, bold and lip-smacking, with pristine focus, succulent summer feeling and lovely impact.

2019 93 2020-2028

Stadstaal Cinsault

RR

2019: mauve hue with muted cherry and spice nose, soft and silky fruits, lush and gentle and very seductive.

2019 91 2019-2028

2020: ripe and generous silky fruit, so pale and seductive, brightly perfumed and irresistible.

2020 90 2020-2029

Merlot

R

2010: mid coloured, strawberry, cherry, game and leather. Subtle tannins and nice length.

2007 88 2007-2013

2010 85 2010-2017

2017: mid ruby red, sweet fruit cherry nose, easy, fruity and pleasant, finishing quickly.

2017 83 2017-2024

2018: fresh and bright, with acid structure and red cherry fruit, uncomplicated and satisfyingly fruity.

2018 86 2018-2027

2019: soft and comforting, with mixed berry fruits, hint of vanilla and cherry, round and accessible.

2019 85 2019-2027

2020: nicely balanced with accessible berry fruit and cherry fullness, unobtrusive but enjoyable.

2020 86 2020-2028

2021: full flavoured, more winter fruits than summer, smooth and hearty without any edges.

2021 87 2021-2028

Kweekskool Merlot

RR

2016: grippy, bitter cherry red fruited, dry, savoury bite and herb, with depth.	2016	86	2017-2025
2017: mid depth, dark cherry fruited nose, tangy and lip-smacking, bright red berried with a dry finish.	2017	87	2017-2027
2018: pale depth and lighter feel, a fruity, accessible wine with red fruit and vanilla hint and a fresh dry finish.	2018	88	2018-2028
2021: best version yet, with ripe and silky red berry notes, harmonious, subtle yet complex, a delight.	2021	91	2021-2029

Tannat / Malbec

RRR

	2006	88	2007-2014
2008: stewed mulberry nose, light but mouthfilling, dusty tannins, leather and almost sinewy. Quite chunky.	2008	86	2008-2018

Summit SMG

RR

	2007	91	2009-2019
2009: purple, inky hue. Dark berry nose, dry tannins and a rustic, spicy and full palate.	2009	87	2010-2019
2015: deep and rich, with layers of dark fruit, spice and wood, perfect winter drinking, most satisfying.	2015	92	2017-2028
2016: fleshy and mouth-filling ripe cherry fruited, staying focussed and sweetly poised with a spice hint and pleasant finish.	2016	88	2016-2026

Donkesbaai Rooiwijn

RRR

2017: lustrous and attractive, mid depth, bright juicy cherry fruit, layered and revealing itself slowly, finishing dry, very nice.	2017	91	2018-2028
2018: pale and healthy, with good acid balance, mixed winter berry fruit, easy-going and friendly.	2018	89	2018-2028

Frontier Cabernet Sauvignon

RR

	2006	86	2006-2012
2010: spicy nose, summer berries and a tangy slightly lean finish.	2010	83	2010-2018
2013: pleasant but unremarkable, full of dark fruit in a neutral fashion.	2013	80	2013-2022

Cabernet Sauvignon

R

2017: juicy and suggesting whole bunch freshness, almost jammy in its forward, softish attack.	2017	82	2017-2025
2018: forward and generous sweet ripe fruited, lots of red berries among dark notes, wood support, easy-going.	2018	86	2018-2027
2019: soft and supple liquid blackcurrant lozenge with sweet vanilla hint, touch of dark spice and overall irresistible.	2019	87	2019-2028
2020: feels lighter than its 14% alcohol, and more like a Cinsault in its fruit profile and red berry note, supple and friendly.	2020	87	2020-2028
2021: smoky leather tang, hint of tar and thick blue fruits in a please-all style, rather forgettable.	2021	85	2021-2028

Ou Hoofgebou Cabernet Sauvignon

RR

2016: glossy but light footed and supple, dark fruit and pencil shavings, finishing quite grippy.	2016	88	2017-2027
2017: opaque depth, wood hint and backbone over blackcurrant and ripe plum layers, drinking well young but will keep.	2017	90	2018-2028
2019: winter fruit deep nose, red currant dry palate, grippy tannins then more lush and liquid finish.	2019	89	2020-2029
2020: rich and decadent, and nicely smooth, this has fine dusty dry tannins, cassis and unobtrusive	2020	90	2021-2029

oak.

Lapa Cabernet Sauvignon RRR

2009: smoky, cassis nose, deep, warm and smooth but with a backbone of tannin. Rich, complex and immense.	2009	94	2011-2022
2015: mid depth, silky tannins, big and clean fruited, will improve to show elegant, balanced fruit and real class.	2015	91	2017-2028
2016: mixed berry fruit compote, dry and savoury, with intensity, firm grip over alluring fruit and some persistence.	2016	91	2017-2029

Vanderstel RR

2016: hints of cedar behind dark black fruits with seamless elegance and compelling tannins.	2016	89	2017-2026
2017: shiny ruby gloss, smooth and silky mouthfeel, balanced and layered, competent wood support, vibrant and long.	2017	93	2018-2029
2019: glossy light ruby shine then bold cassis juiciness, fresh and taut and needing time, but a bargain quality wine.	2019	92	2021-2030

Shiraz R

	2007	88	2007-2013
2010: leather and violets followed by a disarming hint of rubber. Palate wins over the nose.	2010	85	2011-2018
2015: mixed dark berry fruits with a full mouthfeel, pleasant if unremarkable.	2015	81	2015-2024
2017: forward and succulent version, a touch jammy and lozenge-like, but pleasant and satisfying.	2017	83	2017-2025
2018: strangely red fruited, lots of dark cherry,	2018	83	2018-2025

supple and modest and very New World.
Straightforward.

2019: smoky charred meat aromas and supple, dark fruit with spice tightness, robust enough but still friendly. **2019 84 2020-2026**

2020: similar full chargrilled note, with soft furry tannins and generous expression, a winter warmer. **2020 85 2020-2027**

2021: straightforward, spicy fruit based with a rough edge, needs to settle, rather humble. **2021 83 2021-2027**

Kruithuis Syrah RR

2018: mid ruby depth, pliant berry and hedgerow fruits, hint of pepper, full and juicy and sensuous. **2018 88 2019-2029**

Cirrus RRR

2007: stewed fruit nose, mid coloured, forest fruits and oak. Grippy tannins and a slightly lean, tannic finish **2007 90 2009-2019**

2015: quite European in its elegance, restraint and match to food. Silky, smooth blue fruit pleasure. **2015 90 2017-2028**

2016: mid depth, overt expressive nose, pretty mixed berry fruits, not spicy or peppery, but seamless and supple, generous but staying elegant. **2016 92 2017-2029**

Donkiesbaai Hooiwijn RRR

2017: overt stone fruit nose, richly fruited, honey and lime, smooth, balanced acidity, just right. **2017 90 2017-2028**

2018: rich straw depth, bold dried apricot, pear and honeycomb flavours, balanced and fresh, clean and delightful. **2018 91 2018-2029**

2019: pale straw and with a luscious enticing nose, lots of jasmine and honeysuckle then mango and orange peel palate, handles its 205g/l RS well. **2019 91 2020-2030**