

Idiom Wines

Sir Lowrys Pass
 021 852 3590
 fax: 021 851 5891
 GPS: 34° 6' 14.1" S 18° 56' 12.4" E
 Website: www.idiom.co.za
 email: reservations@idiom.co.za
 Owner(s): Bottega Family
 Winemaker(s): Reino Thiar
 WO; Stellenbosch



Vintage Score best drinking

Bianco Di'Stellenbosch Pinot Grigio RR

2017: pale depth, steely and clean floral and yellow stone fruits, rather fleeting.	2017 86	2017-2024
2018: just mid weight, bright but not shrill, subdued stone fruit aromas, not too spicy but nicely viscous.	2018 86	2018-2025
2019: straw tinged with a heavy but not overly fruity nose then silky seamless palate of stone fruit with restraint and calm.	2019 87	2019-2026

Semillon RR

2016: lots of hay and straw classic nuance, hint of wax and yellow fruit youth.	2016 84	2017-2027
2017: straw depth, aromatic nose of honey, hay and lime, some floral yellow fruit savoury bite, needs 3 years, nicely tactile.	2017 89	2020-2028
2018: hints of butterscotch perfume, with zesty classic stone fruit and hay palate, lemony and clean and young yet.	2018 91	2020-2029

Viognier RR

	2007 80	2007-2015
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2013: quite weighty, but oak still dominates and flattens some delicate aromatics	2013	80	2013-2023
2015: pale and shy, quite dry and delicate with peach notes opening last in the mouth, reserved and classy.	2015	87	2016-2025
2016: pale and strangely shy, of mid weight and attack but opens to rich peach and white pear.	2016	86	2016-2025
2017: fuller than '16, with good balance of fresh acid lift and mineral punch with fruit, contained and less exotic.	2017	89	2018-2026

Rosso RR

2016: dry and lean, with herbs and red berry fruit, quite old world and balanced.	2016	85	2016-2026
2017: carmine gloss with bright cherry fruited nose and delicate and finely fruited crisp palate, effective and charming.	2017	90	2019-2028

Sangiovese RRR

	2006	83	2007-2015
2014: dull plum hue but so finely structured, silky tannic bite, herbs and raspberries, deceptively at 14.5% alc.	2014	89	2016-2026
2015: dry and dusty feel, with raspberry and bitter cherry notes, smooth and attractive and delicious.	2015	90	2017-2028
2016: smoky forest berried nose, prettily hued, cherry vanilla red berry smoothness with a raisiny hint. Very classy.	2016	91	2018-2029

Nebbiolo RRRR

2014: pale garnet brown, overt and dry with savoury forest fruits and deceptive power.	2014	87	2015-2025
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2015: full and forward but not overblown, with ripe, clean fruit, quality oak and red berry in balance, a hint of age and mocha.

2015 92 2017-2027

Barbera

RRRR

2014: very deep with sweet ripe fruit and wood notes, good acid lift and generous mulberry and cherry fruits.

2014 91 2016-2027

2018: smoky oak nose with full ripeness, mixed dark fruits rather lacking typicity, but still a serious wine and built to age.

2018 90 2019-2028

Barbera 900 Series

RRRR

2012: Very deep, rich and soft expression, nicely structured with sumptuous fruit layers but retaining some grip. At age eight, showing real class.

2012 92 2014-2025

Black Gold Merlot

RRRR

2011: leafy briary notes on this almost ripasso styled 16.5% alcohol lush and dense wine. Dusty tannins, black cherry and lingers so.

2011 89 2013-2025

2012: soft and mellow, with cherry and raspberry fruit, rather lean but finishing warmly.

2012 86 2013-2025

Malbec

RRR

2014: ruby hue, lots of prominent fynbos and lavender aromas, intense, forward and bold, rich and very New World.

2014 91 2015-2026

2015: opaque glossy depths, black cherry and forest dark fruit notes, perfumed and sumptuous with balance and persistence.

2015 91 2017-2028

Pinotage

RRRR

2015: blue fruited and easy-going, with savoury herb grip and some intricacy.

2015 87 2016-2026

Bordeaux Blend

RRRR

2007: perfumed and balanced with mouthfilling fruit nicely aging and refined, red fruits are showing.

2006 86 2007-2017

2007 89 2008-2019

2013: stewed fruit and leather at age five, still fine fruited and gently balanced, a great food wine.

2013 88 2014-2025

2014: deep garnet, intensely fruited and layered, focussed and cerebral.

2014 89 2015-2026

2015: shy nose, ripe and sweet fruit, blackcurrents, herbs and oak, solid and dry.

2015 89 2016-2027

Cabernet Sauvignon

RRRR

2012: obvious tertiary game notes, leather and herbs and wood, restrained and demure.

2012 88 2013-2025

2015: cedar notes, feels tight yet mixed dark fruit is ripe and sweet, dry and tactile and still improving.

2015 90 2018-2027

Zinfandel

RRR

2010: strawberry, fynbos and Rosemary over clean, layered fruit. Honest and defined.

2007 84 2008-2017

2010 89 2011-2021

2014: mid depth, dry, tangy and rich, lots of mint and dark blue fruits, not porty, nicely unsophisticated.

2014 87 2015-2025

2015: classic stewed fruit and Christmas cake fruits,

2015 88 2016-2027

dark and rich and bold.

2016: bold nose of fynbos and mint, with powerful sage notes with a dried fruit palate, better restraint than '15.	2016	89	2018-2028
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2018: mid depth with fig, mint and mixed winter berries and an overripe, touch extracted note, medium bodied.	2018	88	2019-2028
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SMV Rhone Blend

RRR

2011: at age nine showing perfumed dark nose, currants, cassis and liquorice, seamless, balanced and compelling.	2011	92	2013-2025
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2013: mauve hue, clean and fine mulberry sweetness with rough tannic grip, chunky and impressive.	2013	90	2014-2026
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2014: very deep and sweetly fruited, a hint of spice and herb, dry and long and nicely rustic.	2014	89	2015-2026
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Syrah

RRR

2013: still intense and deep at age five, balanced, dusty tannins, plum and some power.	2013	91	2014-2026
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2014: opaque and glossy, with shy nose then ripe and sweet dark fruits with vanilla hint, elegant and layered.	2014	90	2015-2027
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Cape Blend

RRR

2013: inky deep, serious, brooding nose, very dry and tight, needs time to open, dark fruit melange.	2013	86	2015-2025
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2014: mauve hue, supple and lush, gentle tannins, Full mouthfeel and quite satisfying.	2014	90	2015-2027
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2015: dark and spicy, with big and forward dark blue fruits, and some elegance despite its brashness.	2015	88	2016-2027
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Imperium White Gold Viognier

RRRR

NV: deep gold hue with dried apricot nose, not overly sweet or heavy, ultra-soft and showing summer yellow flowers. Rather muddled.

NV 88 1-8 years