Kleine Zalze Wines

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Owner(s): AdVini

Winemaker(s): Henning Retief, RJ Botha

WO; Stellenbosch / Coastal / Western Cape



Vintage Score best drinking

Vintage Brut MCC RRR

2011: faintly tinted with a brief mousse and lemon	2011	84	2011-2020
and sherbet nose, dryish and light, quite pleasant.			
2013: lemony bright yellow fruit nose, rather blunt	2013	86	2013-2023
and brief soft mouthfeel but finishes somewhat			
crisper.			

MCC Brut Rosé RR

NV: pale straw hue, no lees mealy notes, delicate	NV	86	1-6 years
almost citrus nose, fine mousse and zesty feel.			

Cellar Selection Sauvignon Blanc R

	2010	80	2010-2013
2011: watery hue, quiet nose of tangy	2011	80	2011-2014
citrus. Lighter style with firm acidity.			
2012: refreshing, clean fruited and	2012	82	2012-2017
medium weight. Does exactly what it			
should.			
2013: lime and lemon zest with a fullish	2013	83	2012-2018
mid palate and crunchy ending. Quite satisfying.			
2014: fresh and juicy if less decisive	2014	82	2014-2019

as a sauvignon, and lacking some depth.			
2015: pungent green apple, squashed	2015	88	2015-2022
limes and gooseberry then grapefruit			
palate. Delicious.			
2016: touch softer and gentler, but	2016	84	2016-2023
still with clean fruit and terrific value.			
2017: nicely green fruited, crisp and refreshing,	2017	83	2017-2024
simple and pleasant.			
2018: full and quite rich, with gentle lush fruit	2018	84	2018-2025
impact and enough acidity to keep it bright			
and satisfying.			
2019: steely green fruits, lime, grapefruit and bright	2019	86	2019-2026
citrus notes, with round mouthfeel and balanced			
acidity, clean and as reliable as ever.			
2020: classic warm climate tropical hint over steely	2020	86	2020-2027
lemon sherbet dry tones, balanced and mellow as ever.			
2021: hardly complex, layered or long, but simply	2021	87	2021-2028
packed with crunchy green fruit, wet pebble			
minerality and a fresh dry finish.			
2022: still nicely greener fruited than tropical,	2022	86	2022-2028
precise, good value, clean and satisfactory.			

Vineyard Selection Sauvignon Blanc

RR

2017: just medium weight and quite pale, with	2017	86	2017-2024
fresh citrus notes, clean if rather fleeting.			
2018: overt and forward, with bright citrus, green	2018	87	2018-2026
fruits and guava, clean, well balanced and enjoyable			
2019: very pale, with feint citrus and gooseberry fruits,	2019	89	2019-2027
nicely viscous but staying fresh and light feeling, quite			
focussed.			
2021: fruity and yet not heavy, with steely and crisp	2021	88	2021-2027
citrus green fruit notes, still tight but promising a			
rounder finish.			

	2008 89	2008-2013
2010: pale lime with grassy aromas. Nettles	2010 89	2010-2018
and crisp acidity on enticing green fruit.		
2016: intense stone fruit, with minerality	2016 90	2016-2026
and herbal edge, rich and enticing.		
2017: overt, rich nose bursting with ripe fruit	2017 91	2017-2027
energy, grows in the mouth and remains fine		
and expressive.		
2019: smoky nose with lees weight, then mineral	2019 90	2019-2028
taut entry, more round oats richness comes		
through and finishing with style.		

Cellar Selection Chenin Blanc BV R

a comforting mouthfeel and yellow stone fruit

	2006	90	2006-2018
	2008	87	2008-2013
	2009	90	2009-2019
	2010	88	2010-2018
	<mark>2011</mark>	88	2011-2018
2012: remarkable value, rich, chunky and	2012	90	2012-2019
full of character. Honey, bitter apple,			
marzipan. Delicious.			
2013: lighter version, needs time to	2013	87	2013-2020
show real textured apple and lime fruit.			
Clean and zippy.			
2014: fresh and clean but needs time to	2014	86	2014-2021
show depth and texture, always good value.			
2015: Sauvignon blanc without the acidity;	2015	82	2015-2024
green vibrant citrus and apple fruited. Very			
deceptive.			
2016: once again, more Sauvignon than	2016	78	2016-2024
Chenin, tart green apple and just slightly			
less acidity. Identity crisis.			
2017: sparkling representation of a good	2017	87	2018-2028
vintage; vibrant, chewy, layered and will			
improve. Terrific.			
2018: quite rich and viscous, with clean fruit profile,	2018	86	2018-2027

nuances.

2019: reliable as ever, green unripe apple kick,	2019	86	2019-2028
fullish and fruity, with a blunt citrus finish. Needs			
time.			
2020: delicious crisp crunchy green apple with good	2020	87	2020-2029
weight and round fruit mid palate, generous and			
enticing, always great value.			
2022: tangy but not overdone, mixed yellow fruits,	2022	85	2022-2028
pleasant, but doesn't stand out.			

Vineyard Selection Chenin Blanc RR

	2008	90	2008-2018
	2010	86	2010-2018
2011: very pale, fruity nose, creamy and	2011	84	2011-2017
soft – it could be chardonnay. Tropical			
fruit finish.			
2015: stylish and supple, with bright	2015	87	2015-2025
fruit just lacking some inspiration.			
2017: pale straw hue, soft and creamy, picked	2017	86	2017-2027
ripe with mellow acidity, easy and accessible.			
2018: supportive oak gives feint creaminess behind	2018	91	2019-2029
explosive fruit purity. Fresh pineapple, green apple			
and some florality abound, a clean, seamless and			
striking wine. Undeniably good.			
2019: beautifully precise and showing bright fruit of	2019	92	2020-2030
orange and jasmine and barely ripe quince,			
seamless and balanced, layered and distinguished.			
2020: rich and creamy nose, lots of juicy stone fruit,	2020	92	2021-2029
complex and lingering and terrific value, this is very			
good.			
2021: another beautifully rich, tangy and classy	2021	92	2021-2030
version, old gold shine, cream cheese and tangerine			
bite, pear skin texture, dried apricot.			

2016: creamy, rich nose, almost too much,	2016	87	2017-2027
but tighter on the palate and hinting at fruit			
to come.			
2017: needs time to really show, but hinting at	2017	90	2019-2028
clean tropical and citrus fruit depths, long textured			
mouthfeel, clean quality fruit. Will improve score.			
2018: pale depth but bold and crisp lemon citrus	2018	91	2019-2029
and green apple precision, opening to a richer finish.			
Will improve with age.			
2020: just mid weight, with precise, if shy in youth,	2020	91	2022-2029
stone yellow fruits, tighter but balanced and just			
needing time.			

Cellar Selection Chardonnay R

	2011	83	2011-2017
2012: pale lime, 'green' nose with underlying	2012	83	2012-2018
citrus, fresh, zippy palate with more tart than			
tropical notes.			
2013: full, juicy and nicely weighted,	2013	84	2013-2020
with tropical nose and hints of citrus on			
palate.			
2014: succulent fruit, mango, peach and	2014	84	2014-2021
orange peel, with vital acid lift, very			
appealing.			
2015: familiar bright acidity, hint of	2015	83	2015-2023
creamy fruit behind, consistently appealing.			
2016: fruity and brisk, without much weight	2016	82	2016-2022
and quite short, but still good value.			
2017: very clean, with fresh fruit purity, mid	2017	84	2017-2025
weight and some expression. Good value.			
2018: fresh, but not too crisp, with muted yellow	2018	84	2018-2026
fruits, not overly tropical, and nicely balanced.			
2019: fruity and forward with fresh fruit cocktail,	2019	82	2019-2025
finishing taut and somewhat metallic which			
affects the balance.			
2020: deliciously rich and full of lush tropical fruits,	2020	87	2020-2028
peach, white pear and finishing with a mineral hint,			

2021; tightly wound and greener than the '20, with	2021	86	2021-2028
brisk crunch and just a hint of warmer fruit finish.			

Vineyard Selection Chardonnay RR

	2008	90	2008-2018
	2010	85	2010-2016
2011: yellow white, heaps of passion fruit	2011	87	2012-2018
and pineapple aromas flood the palate,			
not too heavy but fresh and enjoyable.			
2017: lots of peaches and cream and lees richness,	2017	90	2017-2028
lime and fresh notes, balanced despite its fullness,			
and retaining focus.			
2018: pale despite wood ferment, creamy and butter	2018	88	2018-2028
hint but full and fleshy yellow fruit enjoyment			
2020: pale hue despite leesy oats weight, lots of	2020	89	2020-2028
floral notes, peach and jasmine, staying nicely			
edgy.			

Cellar Selection Gamay Noir Rosé R

2011: deep pink hue, rose petals and	2011	82	2011-2018
raspberries. Lots of fruit; strawberries			
and quite mouthfilling.			
2014: vibrant hued with upfront red berry	2014	80	2014-2019
and quite grippy, in fact somewhat brisk			
at the finish.			
2015: summer pudding nose, bone dry	2015	84	2015-2022
rose petals and spring blossom.			

Cellar Selection Cinsault Rosé R

2018: very pale with light strawberry softness,	2018	84	2018-2024
easy going with dry mixed fruit finish.			
2019: copper-pink tinged with bright dried raspberry	2019	86	2019-2026

nose and crunchy summer pudding palate, nicely dry and great value.

2020: pale pink hue, strawberry fruit nose, lip-smacking	2020	86	2020-2026
tightness over subtle ripe berry fruit. Dry finish.			
2021: starts full and fleshy with a ripe hint and ends	2021	86	2021-2026
crisp and dry and palate satisfying.			
2022: delicate features but fully ripe, with raspberry	2022	87	2022-2027
and strawberry confection, staying dry.			

Cellar Selection Cinsault R

2016: mid depth, glossy with lean	2016	83	2016-2025
strawberry nose and fleshy fruit.			
Pleasant and undemanding.			

Cellar Selection Gamay R

2010: light ruby, red fruit nose, tangy,	2010	80	2010-2016
with spice notes. Tannic kick and dry			
finish.			
2013: dark red berry and cherry nose,	2013	83	2013-2020
quite a punch, juicy and soft if rather			
brutish for Gamay.			

Vineyard Selection Grenache RR

2016: purple mauve hue, earthy nose – quite foresty –	2016	87	2017-2026
but showing clean fresh fruit palate, crisp and edgy.			
2017: glossy yet pale garnet, fresh and lightly fruity,	2017	86	2017-2027
good structure with nimble if brief cherry notes.			
2020: very attractive, with ripe berry notes and full	2020	90	2020-2028
mouthfeel yet staying elegant and fine.			

Vineyard Selection Pinot Noir

2010: light depth, nice sweet fruit nose, mid	2010	80	2010-2015
weight with a touch of leanness and dry			
finish. Lacks fruit concentration.			
2015: deeper, more brutish than previously,	2015	88	2015-2025
but backed by clean, rich spicy fruit.			
2016: glossy light hue, with nicely balanced	2016	88	2016-2026
red fruit and some grippy feel.			

Cellar Selection Merlot R

2010: ruby red, hints of forest fruit and	2010	83	2010-2018
leather, mouthfilling and juicy, good			
acid bite, simple fruit depth.			
2012: classic Merlot red berry fruit	2012	82	2012-2020
with savoury edge and mellow tannins.			
2013: dark and spicy, with the mercaptans	2013	81	2013-2022
of a Pinotage, somewhat overblown.			
2014: clean and easy-going, uncomplicated	2014	80	2014-2022
and pleasant dark fruit.			
2015:more depth and richness than	2015	83	2015-2025
previously, nicely fruited and moreish.			
2016: touch reductive, with jammy almost	2016	77	2016-2022
burnt notes, but with enough fruit to still			
enjoy.			
2017: red berry and a dark fruit edge, just mid	2017	80	2017-2023
garnet, clean and straightforward, if finishing			
rather tough.			
2018: very fruity and forward, with typical red berry	2018	82	2018-2026
and cherry ease, pleasant if brief.			
2019: mixed forest berries, forward but nicely	2019	85	2019-2027
balanced and trademark smooth and lovable.			
2020: packed with bright fruit impact, all dusky	2020	87	2021-2028
cherry and tar, full and decidedly more intense.			

Cellar Selection Pinotage R

2010: mid depth, blue fruit nose, soft burnt	2010 83	2011-2017

forest fruit with a hint of acetone. Smooth		
spicy finish.		
2011: juicy squashed plum with banana	2011 85	2011-2020
hints in a supple and deliciously rich style.		
2012: straightforward, juicy fruit with hints	2012 84	2012-2020
of grippy savoury flavours.		
2013: distinctly Pinotage acetone and tar,	2013 82	2013-2021
with easy dark fruit and smooth effect.		
2014: pungent gamey nose, bold fruit	2014 82	2014-2024
and layers of coffee bean roasting, could		
be Merlot.		
2017: mixed dark berry medley, smooth	2017 81	2017-2026
and easy, clean and straightforward.		
2018: smoky sweet vanilla and intense black	2018 86	2019-2027
liquorice notes, ripe and fleshy and good value.		
2019: rich, silky smooth and quite lustrous, with	2019 87	2020-2028
a perfumed nose and thick tar notes, an easy		
drinker but enjoyable.		
2020: deeply blue fruited with notable varietal	2020 87	2021-2028
bitumen and liquorice, full frontal and viscous.		

Cellar Selection Cabernet Sauvignon/ Merlot

2009: deeply coloured, sweet fruit nose,	2009	86	2009-2018
dry tannins but subtle sweet fruit base.			
Definitely not a quaffer.			
2010: straight forward and full of fruit.	2010	85	2010-2018
Quite dense in texture and with spicy blue			
fruits.			
2017: very juicy, easy-going with brash soft	2017	86	2017-2026
blue fruits, simple and enjoyable.			
2018: muscular and briary, with a char-grilled	2018	84	2019-2027
hint saved by oozing dark fruit finish, reliably			
competent.			
2019: inky deep and full bodied, lots of sweet	2019	86	2020-2028
black fruit with some power, yet nicely			
accessible and friendly.			

R

Cellar Selection Cabernet Sauvignon

R

2010: pale ruby, shy nose, soft and juicy	2010 83	2010-2018
fruit with hints of pencil shavings, tannins		
a touch puckering, dry finish.		
2011: pleasant, fruity and supple, if a	2011 81	2011-2018
touch one dimensional and lacking		
definition.		
2012: mid weight, dark and grippy but	2012 82	2012-2019
lacking distinguishing features.		
2013: soft, juicy and very easy entry,	2013 83	2013-2020
with dark spicy fruit and a pleasing dry		
grip on the finish.		
2014: supple and easy-going dark lozenge	2014 80	2014-2023
fruit. Agreeable and undemanding.		
2015: briar and a creamy oak finish, with	2015 81	2015-2024
dark fruit but little definition.		
2016: full and easy going, with supple	2016 81	2016-2025
tannins and friendly dark fruit.		
2017: supple and juicy, bursting with fruit and	2017 83	2017-2025
nicely balanced. A wine best enjoyed young.		
2018: impossible to dislike, plump and pliant	2018 86	2019-2027
with ever reliable dark fruit ripeness, full and		
satisfying.		
2019: more intense than the '18, with burnt wood	2019 88	2021-2028
and dark chocolate then liqueur blackcurrant,		
needing decanting.		
2020: strange cooked nose and blowsy, meat and	2020 78	2020-2027
herb palate, not very pleasant. A step backward.		

Vineyard Selection Cabernet Sauvignon

	2006	91	2008-2018
	2007	91	2009-2019
	2008	88	2009-2016
2010: very deep, expressive nose, rich dark	2010	89	2011-2019

RR

fruit with overt tannins which need 2/3 years

to settle. Long finish, will improve.

2016: medium bodied with dark mulberry and	2016	90	2017-2028
blackcurrant fruit depths, remaining silky and			
expressive.			
2017: very deeply coloured, with wood and cassis	2017	92	2018-2029
layers, rich and very dry, full and textured and			
nicely unpolished.			
2018; intense and muscular, with dark currant fruits,	2018	91	2020-2030
soft but dry furry tannins, hearty and quite powerful,			
built to last.			
2019: very deeply hued with a shy nose, dry furry	2019	90	2021-2029
tannins in youth and vibrant dark fruits,			
straightforward and enjoyable.			

Family Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon RRRR

2005: overt and perfumed and at age 13 with forest	2005	94	2008-2022
floor notes, fynbos and chocolate, balanced still and long.			
2007: Pauillac like sophistication and	2007	95	2011-2022
power. Beautiful seamless fruit and ripe			
tannins, sheer class. Not overblown and			
will reveal more in time.			
2013: Big, sweet fruited, fleshy and	2013	92	2015-2028
approachable, with class enough to			
improve. Lovely.			
2015: beautifully opulent and forthright, with mulberry	2015	94	2017-2030
softness and balanced alcohol (15%) and wood tannins,			
long, layered and very fine.			
2016: pale and smoky with a fresh palate and perfumed	2016	92	2018-2029
stylish body, elegant, not overworked and very classy.			
2017: pre-release has delicious lozenge black cassis fruits,	2017	93	2020-2032
ripe and full and forward, quite lovely and will improve score yet.			
2019: deep garnet barrel sample has smooth silky fruit	2019	93	2021-2032
intensity, rich mulberry and dark currant themes, delicious			
and still evolving.			

	2009	85	2009-2018
2010: very deep, dark fruit nose of violets	2010	90	2011-2020
and perfume. Blue fruit palate which fills			
the mouth with rich, lovely fruit. Good			
balance and will keep.			
2015: sweet fruited, herbs and savoury	2015	89	2016-2027
bite, rustic and comforting.			
2016: pale depth and very dry, with rustic,	2016	86	2016-2026
burly dark fruit and tannic hold.			
2017: deeply hued with a spice and briar fruited	2017	88	2017-2027
profile, rustic and hearty and full of dark fruited			
satisfaction.			
2018: mid ruby gloss, wipe forward ripe mulberry	2018	89	2019-2028
nose and not overly spicy or wooded generous			
fruit managing to stay nimble.			

Vineyard Selection Shiraz RR

	2006	91	2008-2018
	2007	91	2009-2019
2009: deep hue, spicy blackberry nose, soft,	2009	89	2010-2019
oaky palate -a touch dominant but with ripe			
fruit behind it.			
2015: dark berried, big, dry and full bodied,	2015	90	2017-2027
with good persistence.			
2016: mixed dark fruit nose, just mid weight, not	2016	89	2016-2027
peppery but perfumed and elegant and accessible			
young.			
2017: very deep glossy shine, serious dark fruits, sinewy	2017	91	2019-2029
oak tannins, tactile plum and mulberry finishing dry, will			
age well.			
2018: soft, plummy fruity nose, tactile and dry at	2018	91	2019-2028
first opening to a silky currant fruit core, nicely			
generous.			

	2007	95	2010-2020
2009: alluring nose then lush dense fruit	2009	94	2011-2022
all velvety softness but with deceptive			
power. Stunning.			
2015: dark as night, overtly scented with big alcohol	2015	93	2018-2030
weight, opulent fruit and oak tannins. Black fruited			
and dry with layers of lush comfort.			
2016: surprisingly taut and chunky for the vintage,	2016	92	2019-2031
loaded with wood notes, dark forest fruits, lush			
currants and gentle spice, needs time still at age four.			
2017: nearly opaque with violet floral aromas, some	2017	94	2019-2030
oak muscle then rich, layered smoky black fruits,			
assertive yet classy, long and impressive.			

