

Neethlingshof Estate

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 Owner(s): Stone Pine Wines
 Winemaker(s): De Wet Viljoen
 WO; Stellenbosch



Awash with stately buildings, this large estate offers much and the wines are lovingly presented.

Vintage Score best drinking

Hill & Dale Brut Rosé RR

NV: light cherry hue, quiet red berry nose, gentle mousse, fruity simple palate for summer drinking.

NV 84 1-5 years

Hill & Dale Sauvignon Blanc R

	2009 80 2009-2012
2011: pale hue, zippy acidity with rather light citrus fruit overlay. Refreshing and honest.	2011 80 2011-2015
2012: mouthwatering zesty citrus with nice weight and clean fruit.	2012 83 2012-2016
2013: lemon, lime and lashings of grapefruit in an easy drinking style.	2013 83 2013-2018
2014: hint of cream on the nose, then mild green fruit and a pleasant dry finish.	2014 82 2014-2019
2016: quite weighty, with a hint of metallic minerality over tangy tangerine, a good effort.	2016 82 2016-2023
2018: wet pebbles and garden herbs, with just enough acidity and a likeable palate feel.	2018 83 2018-2024
2019: very similar to the '18, with muted herbaceous and citrus notes, nice weight but simple and brief.	2019 83 2019-2025
2020: mid straw with pungent nose and melon, damp earth and mineral tang, always pleasant.	2020 85 2020-2026

Hill & Dale Chardonnay

R

2011 : pale yellow, oozing tropical fruits and mid weight. Very enjoyable and perfect summer drinking.	2011	84	2011-2017
2012 : Chenin-like savoury green apple acidity and chewy fruit flavours. Quite forward and expressive.	2012	84	2012-2017
2013 : lighter styled, with delicate tropical and vanilla flavours. Pleasant and refreshing but lacking some character.	2013	82	2013-2019
2014 : light and pleasant, with gentle vanilla and bright citrus fruits.	2014	81	2014-2021
2015 : clean, fruit forward and a good picnic wine, but suffering for stand-out features.	2015	78	2015-2022
2016 : simple fruit profile, pleasant and good value as ever.	2016	78	2016-2023
2017 : mid weight and subdued tropical fruit notes, clean and effective if lacking personality.	2017	79	2017-2024
2018 : nicely weighted and fruit forward, with melon, lemon and ripe peach notes. Easy going and satisfying.	2018	84	2018-2026
2019 : bright and chunky, with lemon quince and marmalade hint, finishing rather bluntly and slightly metallic.	2019	84	2019-2026
2020 : initial lemon/mandarin burst then some biscuity wood rendering the dry, metal note finish.	2020	83	2020-2027
2021 : nicely crunchy and fresh, with white floral notes, peach and yellow fruit, finishing softer if somewhat thin.	2021	85	2021-2027

Hill & Dale Pinot Grigio

R

2012 : nicely weighty with floral notes and soapy texture, lots of pear drop fruit.	2012	82	2012-2018
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Hill & Dale Merlot Rosé

R

2014: strawberry sorbet nose with surprising tannic bite over red berry flavours.	2014	80	2014-2018
2015: lacks some definition but provides quite full fruit and red berry impact.	2015	78	2015-2022
2016: bright cherry-pink with cherry candy nose and flavours. Not too subtle.	2016	78	2016-2023
2017: rich red berry flavours, pink-red hue and bold if a touch heavy.	2017	78	2017-2024
2018: cherryade colour, thick red berry impact, finishing dry with full-on mouthfeel, nice picnic wine.	2018	78	2018-2025
2019: full fruity and viscous mouthfeel, a touch syrupy though dry, simple and red berried.	2019	78	2019-2025
2020: less syrupy than the '19, with blood orange hue, dried glacé cherry and winter red berry, a step up.	2020	84	2020-2026

Hill & Dale Merlot

R

2010: Game aromas and a rather lean palate with subtle tannins. Stewed fruit and leather palate, straightforward and finishing short.	2010	80	2010-2015
2011: clean, bright, medium weight and honest, nice berry notes with some depth.	2011	80	2012-2018
2012: sweet oak notes, lowish (13%) alcohol and spicy berry fruit, all very enjoyable.	2012	81	2012-2019
2013: dark bitter cherry fruited, clean and fulsome if a touch blunt.	2013	81	2013-2020
2014: inoffensive, spicy fruited and acceptable to all, if lacking individuality.	2014	79	2014-2022
2015: soft and comforting, perfectly representing the easy going style of this brand. Some nice fruit.	2015	80	2015-2023
2016: touch overdone, almost burnt fruit, but still easy-going and glugable.	2016	78	2016-2022
2017: smoky dusty tannins and full frontal ripe mulberry flavours, lots of plum and damson and quite generous.	2017	84	2018-2027
2018: barely ripe cherry and raspberry, with firm	2018	80	2019-2027

acid lift, mixed fruit notes, clean and competent if unremarkable.

2019: full and forward, with an initial medicinal note then burnt cherry and currant, fruit driven and effective as ever. **2019 85 2020-2028**

Hill & Dale Pinotage R

2012: mixed dark berry fruits in a supple and easy drinking style. Prunes and a slight bitumen finish. **2012 80 2012-2019**

2013: full bodied and comforting, if heavy on the wood influence. **2013 81 2013-2021**

2014: touch jammy and with forward, juicy but simple enjoyment, easy going. **2014 80 2014-2022**

2015: rich and smooth, with typical plummy notes, very acceptable. **2015 82 2015-2024**

2016: dark and spicy, fullish and forward, lacking definition, but always satisfying. **2016 80 2016-2025**

2017: soft and enticing, very juicy and with mixed berry fullness. Easy and a perfect introduction to the varietal. **2017 84 2017-2026**

2018: perfectly acceptable dark fruited with some rustic spice and a medium body. Clean and reliable. **2018 84 2018-2027**

2019: tactile and smooth berry fruited with a black fruit edge, pliable and easy as ever. **2019 86 2019-2028**

Hill & Dale Cabernet Sauvignon/Shiraz R

2011: bursting with supple black fruits, very scented and above expectations. **2011 84 2011-2020**

2012: dark and spicy with ripe juicy tannins. Pleasant and satisfying. **2012 82 2012-2020**

2013: dark spicy almost unripe dark fruits with simple enjoyment and a dry woody finish. **2013 81 2013-2021**

2014: dark, spicy bold fruit with a touch of **2014 78 2014-2022**

rawness and a bitter hint at finish. Touch too rustic.

2015: clean, pleasant and with smooth dark fruits, balanced and easy if unremarkable.	2015	79	2015-2024
2016: unsophisticated mixed dark berry blend, chunky and with feint spice, full and robust.	2016	82	2016-2025
2017: easy and syrupy in a good way, lots of dark fruit impact, juicy, satisfying roundness and very pleasant.	2017	83	2017-2025
2018: sumptuous dark fruit medley, smooth and generous, almost syrupy but in a good way, with a mint and spice bite at finish.	2018	87	2019-2027
2019: sweet wood nose with a touch of mint, green tea and spice, full succulent dark fruit body, supple and very pleasing.	2019	88	2020-2028

Hill & Dale Shiraz

R

2012: juicy and dark fruited in a straightforward, accessible style if short on individuality.	2012	82	2012-2018
2013: gritty and rustic spice and blackberries, simple and very easy to gulp.	2013	82	2013-2020
2015: a braai wine, supple bramble fruits, forward and fruity, simple and brief.	2015	82	2015-2022

Sauvignon Blanc

R

2012: very pale, overt gooseberry nose, round and balanced in the mouth.	2012	83	2012-2016
2013: bold lemony citrus nose and flavours. Crisp, mouthwatering and fresh gooseberry. Very nice.	2013	86	2013-2018
2014: intense tropical fruit salad on nose and palate, crunchy and with real presence. Enjoy immediately.	2014	87	2014-2020
2015: clean, fresh and aromatic, with bright crunchy green fruit. Consistently	2015	85	2015-2023

good.

2016: nicely balanced, with focused fruit, some citrus, some tropical, and just the right acidity to stay rich.	2016	86	2016-2024
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2017: richly weighted with full smooth mouthfeel, just hints of tropical fruit. Very enjoyable, not too crisp.	2017	83	2016-2025
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2018: palest tinge of colour, grapefruit and green fruits, nice oily feel, ripe and satisfying.	2018	86	2018-2026
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2019: green tinged, with bold citrus and green herb savoury crunch, light, punchy and vibrant.	2019	87	2019-2027
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2020: slightly tinted with bold flinty green citrus, gooseberry and green pepper, dry and brief.	2020	86	2020-2027
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2021: full and forward, with fresh herb notes and gentle grapefruit, dry and refreshing but full of fruit.	2021	87	2021-2027
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Jackals Dance Sauvignon Blanc

RR

2017: pale straw, bold and zesty green citrus notes, appealing and satisfying.	2017	87	2017-2024
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2018: weighty, green gooseberry richness, tropical notes come through later, nicely round with vibrancy, good quality.	2018	89	2018-2027
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2020: mid straw depth, mineral, pebble nose and weighty, earthy textured stone fruits, more structure, less fruity and very nice.	2020	90	2020-2028
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Ode to Nature Riesling

RR

2018: straw hue with rich and full nectarine, dried apricot and peach notes, a mineral base and dry finish, nicely viscous, not huge typicity, but delicious.	2018	90	2019-2029
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Six Flowers

RR

2012: hugely scented and showing golden	2012	88	2012-2019
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hues, this full-flavoured wine has texture, peach and spice.

2017: voluptuous and rich, herbs and oak and jasmine perfume, rich and decadent. **2017 89 2017-2024**

2018: straw colour, fruity nose, dry tangy fresh fruits, exotic and slightly oily, with good weight. **2018 89 2018-2026**

2019: deeper hue than '18, with leesy malo overt nose, then intense and layered peach, pear and myriad tropical and citrus notes. Lovely. **2019 92 2020-2028**

Unwooded Chardonnay R

2012: light yellow, zesty lime and lemons with crisp acidity. Fruit salad in a glass. **2012 82 2012-2016**

2013: more restrained and delightfully elegant, with clean fruit flavours and enjoyable balance. **2013 85 2013-2018**

2014: intense aromas and mouthfeel, bold fruit salad attack with surprising acid grip. Refreshing. **2014 85 2014-2020**

2015: more citrus than previous, with bright, clean fruit, a nice balance and pleasing finish. **2015 84 2015-2022**

2017: delicate yet evolving tropical fruit notes, but not overblown and with considerable class. **2017 84 2017-2025**

2018: pale straw hue, smooth mouthfeel, yellow fruits, slightly tropical, clean and fresh. **2018 85 2018-2026**

2019: sappy damp straw and lime squeeze with a stone fruit and floral background, lovely, but light and brief. **2019 88 2019-2027**

2020: overt pear drop nose and palate note, perfumed and with guava, kiwi, stone fruit and soft fruity finish. **2020 89 2020-2028**

Chenin Blanc R

2012: true Chenin savoury texture and grippy green apple acidity. Flavourful and enjoyable. **2012 85 2012-2018**

2014: nice balance of green and tropical fruit, full flavoured and with subdued acidity. **2014 86 2014-2020**

2017: attractive and forwardly fruited, with apricots, peach and an oily mouthfeel, very nice.	2017	87	2017-2025
2018: zesty flavour packed, lots of apple and lime punch, nicely weighty and with a ripe fruit finish.	2018	87	2018-2028
2019: muted citrus and gentle green fruit nose and palate, an easy style, mid weighted and brief, but pleasant.	2019	85	2019-2027
2020: mid straw hue, soft, fleshy nose opening to tangy quince and pear palate, ending full and big and very nice.	2020	89	2020-2028

Gewurztraminer

R

	2008	86	2008-2014
2012: light gold, floral, perfumed lychee with zippy acidity and spicy finish. Will improve for 2/3 years.	2012	83	2012-2018
2013: punchy and flavourful with honest Gewurz aromatics and spice. Very nice.	2013	85	2013-2019
2014: starts full of promise, tinned pear and spice, but fades quickly.	2014	83	2014-2021
2015: more subtle than '13, but still showing depth and richness. Real character.	2015	85	2015-2025
2016: full flavoured and with spicy grip, big and brash, but with enjoyment and good value.	2016	86	2016-2025
2017: intense and viscous, with deep perfume and a welcome dry finish. Very good.	2017	88	2017-2026
2018: mid gold depth, overt spicy nose, light and fruity with a dry, clean finish, always attractive.	2018	87	2018-2027
2020: straw gold tint with a rich full body, spicy apricot and classic varietal notes, nicely underplayed and delicious.	2020	89	2021-2029

Rosé

R

2018: cherry red hue, smoky mahogany nose then bright red berry palate, dry and brief.	2018	82	2018-2024
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Merlot R

2008: lovely dark chocolate and earthy nose, chunky mocha and cherry flavours. A delicious wine.	2008	88	2009-2018
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2011: dark, sultry and gutsy black fruit with coffee hints from toasty oak. Serious and compelling.	2011	87	2011-2020
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2012: roasted coffee beans and dusty vanilla oak over mixed fruit notes. Consistently good quality.	2012	87	2012-2022
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2016: plummy mauve with blueberry nose and soft and smooth dark cherry palate. Nicely textured and dry.	2016	87	2016-2026
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2017: full and seductive, with dark chocolate notes, dusty tannins and smooth fruit suppleness, impressive if not persistent.	2017	88	2018-2028
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2018: dark garnet shine, earthy forest red berry fruit, very dry and soft tannins, nice structure and mouthfeel.	2018	87	2018-2028
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2019: lashings of quality wood envelop this dark and full bodied wine. Rich, serious and built to last.	2019	89	2021-2030
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Pinotage R

2008: very deep , musty nose of mushrooms and damp earth but then lush, dense fruit fills the palate.	2008	87	2009-2019
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2012: deep, sweet fruit, supportive oak and a satisfying intensity.	2012	88	2012-2020
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2016: smooth and fruity, with background tannins and nice mouthfeel.	2016	87	2016-2026
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2017: opaque depth, shy nose, very dry and grippy with mixed forest blue fruits and wood	2017	87	2017-2027
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support.

2018: certainly not shy, but soft, comforting and furry, with mixed fruit winter in the country notes, mouthfilling and effective.	2018	87	2019-2028
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Owl Post Pinotage RRR

2010: black ink and with a sweet liquorice nose. Silky, big and with heaps of cherry, leather, mocha and game flavours. Needs 2/3 more years, then wow!	2010	93	2012-2019
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2016: opaque, dusty fruited with ripe mulberry, soft coffee notes, velvet tannins and length. Superb.	2016	92	2017-2028
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2017: dark colour and dark fruited, with supple tannins and an easy-going style, quite juicy and enjoyable young.	2017	88	2017-2027
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2018: overt fruity nose, New World easy forward fruit, silky mulberry, prune and blackcurrant, rich and attractive.	2018	92	2020-2029
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Malbec R

	2008	82	2008-2012
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2010: leather and cherry pastilles notes with dark chocolate and plums in the mouth. Needs 2/3 years to really show its quality.	2010	89	2010-2018
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2012: dry, gutsy winter warmer, black fruited and melting lozenge like at finish.	2012	87	2012-2020
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2014: less rusticity and more finesse than previous, with typical plump plum notes.	2014	85	2014-2024
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2016: always big and dark fruited, a satisfying, if somewhat non-descript wine.	2016	82	2016-2025
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2017: purple depth, dark fruited and rich nose, lots of plums and vanilla, dusty tannins, ripe and supple.	2017	87	2018-2027
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2019: bold eucalyptus edgy nose, some mint and	2019	89	2020-2028
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black berries, lush bramble and currant flavours,
intense and pliant.

Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot

R

2016: deep purple with overt cassis, mocha and
oak notes, dark and rustic whilst generous and lush.

2016 89 2017-2027

Cabernet Sauvignon /Merlot/Cabernet Franc

R

2009: deep hue, menthol, eucalyptus and
blackcurrant notes, juicy, ripe fruit with
vanilla, Dry finish.

2009 90 2010-2019

2015: very deep with a reticent nose then full
and ripe forest fruits with earthy hint, long and
layered.

2015 90 2017-2027

2016: immediately attractive, with ripe
mocha and smoky fruit, layered and full
bodied.

2015 90 2016-2026

Cabernet Sauvignon

RR

2003 89 2004-2013

2006: no sign of ageing, still mouthfilling,
lush fruit with layours of chunky complex
tobacco and cassis. Fabulous.

2006 92 2008-2018

2009: touch of oak bitterness on a spicy,
tannic and bold wine. Lacks the elegance
of '06.

2009 84 2011-2020

2010: bold and bright juicy fruit, invisible
oak and a rapier clean fruit profile.

2010 84 2010-2020

2011: chunky and rough edged, but
delightful and capable of good aging if the
finish softens.

2011 85 2011-2022

2015: another needing time, with inky
smooth mocha bitter dark fruits, brooding

2015 88 2016-2027

and bold.

2016: initially impressive, with stewed berry fruit punch, soft oak tannins and classic varietal notes, fades rather.	2016	87	2016-2027
2017: mid ruby depth in a barrel sample, fruity nose, clean and expressive and forward, very enjoyable.	2017	88	2020-2030
2019: smoky bramble fruit on this pre-release, lots of big liquorice and leather notes, quite supple and sexy.	2019	91	2021-2030

Shiraz

R

2006: shy nose, brooding peppery fruit with blackberries and perfumed mixed spices.	2006	88	2008-2018
2015: shy still, deeply coloured and with blackberry and spice softness, will improve.	2015	87	2016-2026
2016: very soft and full, with spice and pepper note over dark hedgerow fruit, all with oak texture and round mouthfeel.	2016	88	2016-2026
2017: rather pongy nose then some spice and black fruit squash, smooth and easy-going and satisfying.	2017	87	2017-2027

Caracal

RRR

2009: opaque, vanilla notes then layers of cassis and blackberry flavours. Mid weight and cerebral, a wine to savour.	2009	93	2011-2018
2015: opaque and reticent, slightly leaner, with mixed red berry and forest fruit structure, will be very good in time.	2015	90	2016-2027
2016: deep and serious, with tight, grippy dark fruit, full bodied, fine and focused just needing time.	2016	90	2018-2028
2017: serious, restrained nose with tertiary note, then earthy mulberries, winter rusticity, very dry and better in 2 years.	2017	90	2021-2029

Maria NLH 375m RRR

2011: gold hue, dried apricots and candied fruits, not heavy or cloying but delicate, zesty and delicious. **2011 90 2012-2019**

2017: finely balanced, restrained sweetness, classic dried fruit and Riesling tautness. Delicious. **2017 87 2017-2028**

2019: shiny gloss on a fresh orange nose, zesty palate of lush yellow fruit and honey, bright and not at all sticky. **2019 90 2020-2029**