

## Simonsig

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WO; Stellenbosch / Western Cape



Vintage    Score    best drinking

### Kaapse Vonkel Brut      RR

	2009	78	2009-2015
<b>2010:</b> yeasty nose, nice weight with brisk acidity and a lovely fruit bite finish.	2010	87	2010-2017
<b>2016:</b> pale, light yellow apple fruited, fresh and satisfying.	2016	87	2016-2024
<b>2017:</b> not too yeasty, but bright and fresh with brief yellow fruits and gentle bubbles.	2017	87	2017-2025
<b>2018:</b> fresh and vibrant, with tight straw fruit aromatics, fruit rind and classic zesty palate.	2018	87	2018-2027
<b>2020:</b> again, clean and vibrant, a hint of lees ageing and enough weight and grip to be enjoyable.	2020	88	2020-2028

### Kaapse Vonkel Rosé      RR

<b>2016:</b> so pale, ultra frothy mousse, quickly fading, red berry impact.	2016	86	2016-2023
<b>2017:</b> mild pink tinge, perfumed nose, roses and red berry nuances, finishing very dry.	2017	88	2017-2027
<b>2018:</b> juicy and nicely dry, not overly yeasty at all, with bright cherry fruit and a gentle bubble. Very	2018	86	2018-2026

easy-going.

### **Kaapse Vonkel Satin Nectar (was Demi-Sec)      RR**

<b>2015:</b> nicely balanced and not overly sweet, mid weight, brief mousse, gentle red berry notes.	<b>2015</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>2015-2023</b>
<b>2017:</b> finely moussed, a gentle nose and off-dry mouthfeel, ripe and generous and very likeable.	<b>2017</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>2017-2027</b>
<b>2018:</b> straw depth, full warm and fruity mouthfeel, not overly sweet with florality and clean balanced weight.	<b>2018</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>2018-2028</b>

### **Kaapse Vonkel Satin Nectar Rosé      RR**

<b>2018:</b> big fruity red berry nose, very pale colour tint, easy and soft with ripeness but not heaviness.	<b>2018</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>2018-2027</b>
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### **Cuvée Royale Blanc de Blanc      RRR**

	<b>2003</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>2003-2016</b>
<b>2005:</b> delicate mousse, reserved nose then classy elegance on the palate, creamy, rich fruit, acid lift, gentle fizz, very fine indeed.	<b>2005</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>2005-2019</b>
<b>2012:</b> mid straw, fine long mousse, yeasty nose, rich layered palate, gentle and round and very fine.	<b>2012</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>2012-2023</b>
<b>2014:</b> lemony bright, fine and nicely round with brioche hint at end.14: still tight and fresh despite 5 years on the lees.	<b>2014</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>2015-2025</b>

### **Adelberg Sauvignon Blanc      R**

<b>2011:</b> very pale, nettles and green apple with fuller, softer palate; all flowers and pears.	<b>2011</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>2011-2015</b>
<b>2013:</b> juicy, upfront fruit, all citrus and zest.	<b>2013</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>2013-2018</b>

Clean and straightforward.

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## Sunbird Sauvignon Blanc

R

<b>2011:</b> pale, soft gentle fruit with cool minerality and lovely depth and mouth feel.	<b>2011</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2011-2018</b>
<b>2017:</b> crisp and balanced green citrus and tropical fruited, tight and finishing with mango.	<b>2017</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>2017-2024</b>
<b>2018:</b> vibrant and ripe, quite weighty and viscous, with clean white fruits and a flinty backbone.	<b>2018</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>2018-2025</b>
<b>2020:</b> full of fresh green citrus, lime and gooseberry, with a hint of warming exotic fruit. Precise, lip-smacking and satisfying.	<b>2020</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>2020-2026</b>

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## Chenin Blanc

R

	<b>2008</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>2009-2018</b>
	<b>2009</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2009-2017</b>
<b>2011:</b> watery hue, green apple and fig with creamy fullness and expressive fruit. Quite tangy.	<b>2011</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>2011-2018</b>
<b>2012:</b> rich colour and zippy nose then full savoury diced green apple fruit. Very nice.	<b>2012</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2012-2018</b>
<b>2014:</b> watery gold hue, citrus nose and herbal, green apple bite, sturdy and refreshing.	<b>2014</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>2014-2021</b>
<b>2015:</b> pungent nose, then bright and breezy palate of citrus fruit, lots of green apple, pear and walnut.	<b>2015</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>2015-2022</b>
<b>2016:</b> overt, lush fruit, tropical centred, with chewy interest, Definitely not shy.	<b>2016</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>2016-2026</b>
<b>2017:</b> ultimate tart green apple crunch, full and expressive, so refreshing and moreish.	<b>2017</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>2017-2027</b>
<b>2018:</b> very pale with savoury green fruits, herbs and a zesty rich palate.	<b>2018</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>2018-2027</b>
<b>2019:</b> dainty and nimble, with hints of apple, pear and some florality, needing a few years to show a level of complexity.	<b>2019</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2021-2028</b>

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<b>2020:</b> gentle fluid entry then fresh crunchy green apple and citrus, filling out with lush fruit and lingering nicely.	<b>2020</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>2020-2029</b>
<b>2021:</b> taut and fresh with green apple notes, promises much but achieves worthwhile flavours if unremarkable.	<b>2021</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2021-2027</b>
<b>2022:</b> needs time to lose its green edge, allowing the pear, apple and fragrant notes hinted on the finish.	<b>2022</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>2023-2030</b>

## Chenin Blanc Avec Chêne RR

<b>2009:</b> bright nose with little obvious chène but lots of tasty stone fruits, peach pits, pears, kiwi and a hint of botrytis. Balanced vibrant and will improve still.	<b>2009</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>2010-2019</b>
<b>2017:</b> straw hue, tangy and textured with wood sinew behind slightly dulled yellow stone fruits.	<b>2017</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2018-2026</b>
<b>2018:</b> richly tinted and with a weighty nose, full and leesy with supportive oak tannins on an orange peel and pear body.	<b>2018</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>2019-2027</b>

## Chardonnay RR

<b>2010:</b> light yellow, popcorn and butter nose with creamy vanilla then passion fruit and kiwi.	<b>2010</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2010-2018</b>
<b>2011:</b> mid depth and weight, quality fruit with summer fruit flavours, long and very satisfying.	<b>2011</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>2011-2019</b>
<b>2013:</b> nicely balanced, with finely crafted fruit in a restrained tropical style.	<b>2013</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2013-2023</b>
<b>2017:</b> crispy apple attack, very firm with oak tannins coming later, remaining fresh.	<b>2017</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>2017-2024</b>
<b>2018:</b> big step up, full of orange peel, yellow fruit and textured wood tannins, layered and tangy and with character. A real contender.	<b>2018</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>2019-2026</b>
<b>2019:</b> very serious, perhaps too much oak covering some precise yellow fruit, almost top quality.	<b>2019</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>2020-2027</b>

## Aurum Chardonnay RRR

<b>2007:</b> gentle gold with a creamy 'fat' nose then full bodied ripe tropical fruit in a full on style. Textured, complex and generous.	<b>2007</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>2009-2018</b>
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## Mediterraneo White RR

<b>2017:</b> pale green tinged with lots of richly mixed fruits, orange peel, quince and oily peach, very floral, compelling and delicious.	<b>2017</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>2018-2028</b>
<b>2018:</b> straw rich depth, hay notes and stone fruits, some jasmine and flora, fresh and compelling, very nice.	<b>2018</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>2019-2028</b>

## Die Kluisenaar White RR

<b>2016:</b> deep straw hue, full yellow fruited, complex and deliciously oily, with peach pit and exotic notes, weighty and profound.	<b>2016</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>2018-2028</b>
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## Gewurztraminer RR

	<b>2009</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>2009-2014</b>
<b>2011:</b> overt lychee and spice nose, rich and full and with some sweetness. Despite this, playful and satisfying.	<b>2011</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>2011-2016</b>
<b>2012:</b> mellow and luscious and full of off-dry spicy fruit sure to please all.	<b>2012</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2012-2020</b>
<b>2016:</b> lighter version, hints of spice and mouthfilling, a favourite and always dependable.	<b>2016</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>2016-2024</b>
<b>2017:</b> deep straw hue, perfumed ripe fruit, classic lychee and Turkish delight if rather brief.	<b>2017</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>2017-2025</b>
<b>2018:</b> sweetly perfumed and sweetly noted but as ever, not syrupy, juicy and fun with some	<b>2018</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>2018-2026</b>

lovely mouthfeel. Less spicy version.

<b>2019:</b> consistently irresistible, with sweetness nicely balanced and tapering at finish, with gunmetal and muted fruit smoothness, mouthfilling and moreish.	<b>2019</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2019-2027</b>
<b>2020:</b> aromatic as ever, with clean lusty spice notes, full mouthfeel, integrated ripeness and warmth, very nice. Sweetly poised.	<b>2020</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>2020-2028</b>

## Pinotage

RR

<b>2009:</b> vibrant colour, musty nose, strawberry and raspberry with leather and herbs; classic Pinotage.	<b>2009</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>2010-2018</b>
<b>2013:</b> sweet vanilla oak over plums and liquorice ripe fruit, quite smooth.	<b>2013</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>2013-2023</b>
<b>2016:</b> frothy exuberance, spicy plums and bitter blue fruits, not heavy.	<b>2016</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2016-2025</b>
<b>2017:</b> purple depth, red berry sweet fruit, tactile and briary with hint of spice and a dry, brittle finish.	<b>2017</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>2018-2027</b>
<b>2018:</b> mid ruby and quite perfumed, with blue and blackberry fruits, easier than the '17 but still very nice.	<b>2018</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>2019-2027</b>

## Redhill Pinotage

RRR

	<b>2006</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>2009-2020</b>
<b>2009:</b> intense, seductive nose then an explosion of lush rich dark fruit in the mouth. Spicy, opulent and elegant and very special.	<b>2009</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>2011-2020</b>
<b>2015:</b> intense and immediately impressive, with lush silky fruit and balanced tannins. Complex and long.	<b>2015</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>2017-2027</b>
<b>2016:</b> opaque and immensely enveloping in lush ripe fruit, silky, long and seductive over wood and mint hints.	<b>2016</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>2017-2028</b>
<b>2017:</b> lighter depth than the '16, with a rich wood nose, vanilla, damson and plums, smooth and elegant but still powerful. Needs to breathe.	<b>2017</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>2019-2029</b>

## Adelberg Cabernet Sauvignon / Merlot R

<b>2010:</b> jammy berry nose, sour cherry and smoke, then spicy easy going red fruit.	<b>2010</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>2010-2016</b>
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## Labyrinth Cabernet Sauvignon RR

	<b>2007</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>2009-2019</b>
<b>2007:</b> mid depth, leather and blackcurrant nose then soft and mouth filling silky fruit still with tannin drive.	<b>2007</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>2009-2019</b>
<b>2010:</b> silky smooth blackcurrant fruit and nicely subdued oak, pleasant if lacking an edge.	<b>2010</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>2010-2022</b>
<b>2012:</b> subtle and yet to fully show, with fine tannins and mixed fruit.	<b>2012</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>2012-2024</b>
<b>2014:</b> deep and fruity, but with green unripe tannins and some astringency, drink soon.	<b>2014</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>2014-2021</b>
<b>2016:</b> rich garnet hue, leafy cedar hint over blackcurrants. Rich and long.	<b>2016</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>2017-2027</b>
<b>2017:</b> bright aromatics, lots of red fruits and wood, quite intense and ripe, smooth and enjoyable.	<b>2017</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>2019-2029</b>
<b>2018:</b> deep ruby shine with a bright, intense berry nose, forest fruits, bramble and dusty dry tannins, showing a hint of age at three, still layered and full.	<b>2018</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>2020-2029</b>
<b>2019:</b> mid purple tint on this barrel sample, still tightly wound with quality wood and dark fruit intensity.	<b>2019</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>2021-2029</b>

## Cabernet Sauvignon/Shiraz R

<b>2011:</b> cherry-garnet hue, mixed berry nose and dark, simply fruited body. inoffensive and easy-going.	<b>2011</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>2011-2019</b>
<b>2013:</b> supple and satisfying, dark spicy	<b>2013</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>2013-2023</b>

fruit with some grip.

<b>2014:</b> dark fruit bite, rather blunt and straightforward, full of muscularity.	<b>2014</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>2014-2023</b>
<b>2016:</b> sweet vanilla oak over soft and dusty dark fruits, quite supple but with some power.	<b>2016</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>2017-2027</b>
<b>2017:</b> still tight in youth, dark and rather edgy, hidden spicy black fruits and quite full bodied.	<b>2017</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>2017-2027</b>
<b>2018:</b> fruity forward spicy nose, dark forest fruits with earthy notes, tight and grippy and very dry.	<b>2018</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2019-2028</b>
<b>2019:</b> full and fleshy, with ripe mixed berry fruits and subtle wood addition, a classy wine and great value.	<b>2019</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>2020-2029</b>
<b>2020:</b> dark and nicely lush fruited, with spice hint on a full and yet silky smooth version.	<b>2020</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>2021-2029</b>

## **The GSM**                      **RR**

<b>2016:</b> should be MGS as it's Mourvedre led, dark, rustic and spicy, with a winter warmer feel.	<b>2016</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>2016-2026</b>
<b>2017:</b> very pale, with easy-going Grenache sweet dusty strawberry and tomato notes, perfumed and just mid-bodied.	<b>2017</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>2018-2027</b>

## **Frans Malan**                      **RRR**

<b>2007:</b> oaky nose then rustic gutsy blackberry fruit. Big tannins, silky but muscular flavours. Attention grabbing.	<b>2007</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>2009-2019</b>
<b>2015:</b> quite pale yet deceptively powerful, sweet ripe fruited intensity, opening beautifully.	<b>2015</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>2017-2028</b>
<b>2016:</b> just mid depth and weight, so clean and focussed, with elegant red fruits, vibrant, silky and complex, the best yet.	<b>2016</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>2018-2029</b>

## **Tiara**                                      **RRR**



<b>2008:</b> mid weight, brooding nose a touch reticent then cigar box and concentrated blackcurrant. Massive and structured and better in two years.	<b>2008</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>2010-2020</b>
<b>2013:</b> some rim fade, leaner style food wine, leafy berry notes, restrained but so classy.	<b>2013</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>2015-2026</b>
<b>2014:</b> firm and dry in youth, muscular and dark but showing classy focussed fruit to come.	<b>2014</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>2016-2028</b>
<b>2015:</b> garnet gloss, redcurrant nose, soft and generous with silky and sexy pristine fruit, finishing dry and very classy.	<b>2015</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>2018-2029</b>
<b>2016:</b> vibrant, glossy and with cranberries, currants and spice, quite powerful yet silky smooth and deep.	<b>2016</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>2018-2029</b>

## The Garland Cabernet Sauvignon

RRRR

<b>2009:</b> released at nine years old, this is Old World, classic cigar box and restrained fruit, balanced, all woodland fires, spice and blackcurrants	<b>2009</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>2012-2024</b>
<b>2011:</b> losing colour and seemingly losing fruit at age eight, with sappy red berry notes, sinewy grip and focussed rather than succulent layers. Feels tired.	<b>2011</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>2012-2022</b>
<b>2015:</b> wood structured with grip at age five, lots of supple currant and hedgerow fruit, classic and restrained, great food wine.	<b>2015</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>2017-2028</b>
<b>2017:</b> chunky and dry yet with elegance and layered fruit as a barrel sample, will be excellent.	<b>2017</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>2023-2034</b>

## Mr Borio Shiraz

RR

<b>2009:</b> spicy cherry and pepper nose, mid weight with smooth but effective tannins. Dry and with real attack, still needs two years.	<b>2009</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>2010-2018</b>
<b>2015:</b> wild red berry notes, lots of pepper and spice and grippy tannins, will improve.	<b>2015</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2017-2026</b>
<b>2016:</b> lots of lilac punchy aromas, silky and clean mulberry fruit, easy and charming.	<b>2016</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2016-2027</b>

**2017:** mid-depth with dark and dusty spicy fruit, supple and rustic and warming, with whole bunch youthfulness.

**2017 86 2018-2028**

**2018:** competent dark fruit with spice and silent oak, if lacking any distinction.

**2018 85 2019-2028**

## Merindol Syrah

RRR

**2008:** luminous sheen then sweet vanilla and blackberry with white pepper. Chunky, powerful fruit and full bodied yet classy and alluring.

**2008 94 2010-2022**

**2014:** mid bodied, grippy tannins, red fruited with spice and some power, very stylish.

**2014 91 2015-2025**

**2015:** wood notes, herbs and mulberry, spice hint and big, lush fruit in layered opulence.

**2015 91 2017-2028**

**2017:** ruby-black intensity, fruit and wood notes, chalky soft tannins and ripe zingy fruit, dry and layered but not heavy, delicious.

**2017 94 2019-2029**

**2018:** brooding and with liquor-like substance, bold and structured yet feeling just as elegant.

**2018 92 2020-2030**

## Heirloom Shiraz

RRR

**2013:** Savoury game nose, ripe plums, sexy, approachable and perfumed

**2013 91 2014-2024**

## Vin de Liza NLH

375ml

RR

**2010:** peaches, apricots and honey in old gold perfection. Rich, unctuous and not for summer chilling. Marmalade and walnut hedonism.

**2010 91 2010-2022**

**2017:** fresh tangerine notes, not overly honeyed, with orange peel and a freshness keeping it light.

**2017 88 2017-2028**

**Straw Wine 375m RR**

<b>2009:</b> light gold, overt grapey nose, full and juicy palate, intense but not cloying.	<b>2009 86 2009-2017</b>
<b>2011:</b> deep gold at 7 years, overt marmalade notes, rich and enticing yet still ethereal. Wonderful.	<b>2011 91 2011-2025</b>
<b>2015:</b> lots of honey and lemon with orange rind freshness, deft and hedonistic.	<b>2015 90 2015-2026</b>

**Cape Vintage Reserve RR**

<b>2014:</b> inky dark, shy and dusty, with bramble soft fruits, light and not cloying, very pleasant.	<b>2014 87 2014-2026</b>
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