

Stellenbosch Vineyards

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Owner(s): 200+ members

Winemaker(s): Abraham De Villiers, Bernard Claassen

WO; Stellenbosch / Western Cape



A range of brands and wines, from the popular Welmoed brand to the increasingly impressive Credo range. Quaint cottage adjoining production facilities now transformed into a swish tasting and dining area, and the presentation and quality of wines has seen this winery climb the ranks.

Vintage Score best drinking

Infinity Brut MCC RR

2014: punchy and dry, with tactile, lip-smacking impact, faint yellow fruits, not overly yeasty, quite light and brief.

2014 84 2014-2024

Versus White R

2011: light green hue, zippy acid, savoury herbs in a lighter style.

2011 80 2011-2017

Versus Red R

2011: mid weight, berry nose, juicy fruit with savoury grip from Shiraz. Pleasant.

2011 84 2011-2018

Arniston Bay Sauvignon Blanc R

2011: almost clear, shy, grassy nose with hint of CO₂, light and zingy.

2011 80 2011-2017

Arniston Bush Vine Bay Pinotage R

2010: dusty fruit nose, savoury blue fruits, juicy and warm with nice balance. Straightforward.	2010	85	2010-2018
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Welmoed Sauvignon Blanc R

2012: hint of green, overt grassy nose with gooseberries and a tangy but short finish.	2012	83	2012-2017
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2014: luscious bright fruit, gooseberry freshness and mango richness. Very appealing.	2014	86	2014-2020
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2016: rather brief and touch watery, but still with that lime and citrus punch, very refreshing.	2016	82	2016-2023
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2018: bursts with fresh citrus attack, crisp and clean then a touch astringent grip and rather brief.	2018	83	2018-2026
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2019: classic freshly cut grass with citrus, grapefruit and gooseberry, so clean and fruity, impossible not to like.	2019	87	2019-2027
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2021: fresh gooseberry bright nose, zesty lemon fruits, not too zippy, broader on the mid palate and finishing clean and light.	2021	86	2021-2027
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Welmoed Pinot Grigio R

2017: spicy and with some texture, but lightweight and rather brief.	2017	80	2017-2023
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2018: delightful dry aromatic wine, floral with white pear and gentle tropical hint, little spice and a perfect summer wine.	2018	85	2018-2025
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Welmoed Gewurztraminer R

2016: perfumed, but not overly, and nicely dry and fruity, brief, but well balanced and satisfying.	2016	83	2016-2025
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2017: bright exotic lychee impact, a touch watery but pleasant.	2017	81	2017-2023
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Welmoed Chenin Blanc

R

	2008	81	2008-2012
2011: pale yellow, expressive, fruity nose then soft and round in the mouth. Lacks some acidity so drink young.	2011	78	2011-2016
2014: chunky, grippy fruit, dry and full of green fruits with bold attack.	2014	84	2013-2020
2015: feels like Hessian, rustic, assertive and full of personality, if not so easily glugged.	2015	82	2015-2022
2016: marked acidity throws the balance, but nice green crunch persists.	2016	78	2016-2023
2017: less zest and punch, slightly mineral stone fruited, simple and pleasant.	2017	78	2017-2024
2018: chunky and full, with savoury bright fruit, pineapple and green melon, nicely weighted and zesty.	2018	84	2018-2026
2019: bursting with textured, vibrant fruit, classic apple, quince and a squeeze of lime, with alluring and compelling generosity, terrific value.	2019	89	2020-2028
2020: friendly and generous, with stewed apple and cream layers, shortbread and a mineral touch, difficult to dislike.	2020	88	2020-2028
2021: tart green apple crunch, smoky slightly mineral taste with a brief and rather light finish.	2021	86	2021-2027
2022: less brisk than the '21, with juicy green fruit and a comforting tropical hint, great value.	2022	86	2022-2028

Welmoed Viognier

R

2011: shy nose, hints of perfume then white fruit notes and softened but lacking body and intensity.	2011	78	2011-2017
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Welmoed Chardonnay

R

2011: pale hue, overt citrus nose with hints of	2011	80	2011-2016
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CO² then soft and juicy in the mouth. Easy style.

2018: some sinewy texture from wood enhancement and mixed yellow fruit flavours. Perfectly acceptable and well-made, if unremarkable.

2018 84 2018-2025

Welmoed Rosé

R

2014: fruity and ripe, with generous, if brief, berry flavours. Good value.

2014 79 2014-2020

2017: very pale, shy cherry nose and red berry palate, tight and rather nervous.

2017 83 2017-2025

2018: palest salmon hue, sweet nose but nicely dry palate, ripe berry fruits, dusty mouthfeel, simple and easy.

2018 83 2018-2025

Welmoed Pinot Noir

R

2014: low alcohol (12%) version with tight and somewhat sharp fruited unripe red berry, holding acidity.

2014 79 2014-2023

Welmoed Merlot

R

2011: red berry fruit nose, Spicy, juicy flavours with simple, tangy fruit.

2011 82 2011-2018

2012: richly flavoured, dry and with some bite, in a straightforward style.

2012 81 2012-2020

2014: dry, dusty oak tannins and coffee bean chocolate, enjoyable but attenuated.

2014 82 2014-2022

2017: shy nose, reserved red berry fruits, vanilla background, seems quite tight, needs to open.

2017 84 2018-2027

2019: liquid cherry lozenge, with a hint of acid grip, warmed by easier tannins and soft mouthfeel.

2019 84 2020-2027

2020: deliciously rich and viscous, with classic varietal notes of forest red berries, cherry and spice, great value. A step up.

2020 88 2020-2028

2021: lots of anonymous mix berry fruits with gentle tannins and a straightforward though enjoyable palate.	2021	86	2021-2028
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Welmoed Pinotage R

2011: light depth, leafy raspberry fruit, finishing a touch lean but with nice flavours.	2011	85	2011-2018
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2013: light weight with simple dark fruits and some lozenge richness. Easy going and pleasant.	2013	81	2013-2021
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2017: ruby bright, mid weight, forward briary fruit and plums, a touch light and watery.	2017	84	2017-2027
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2018: light and juicy, with straightforward blue fruit smoky notes, mixed berries, clean and stout.	2018	84	2018-2027
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2019: liquid blackcurrant and bitumen notes, with red fruit and juicy, soft tannins, very ripe and supple.	2019	86	2019-2028
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2020: similar to '19 without the bitumen, viscous and lush vanilla and dark fruit smoothness.	2020	87	2020-2028
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2021: consistently enjoyable, with liquid blackcurrant pastille, smooth and accessible.	2021	87	2021-2028
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Welmoed Cabernet Sauvignon R

2011: dark fruit nose, blackcurrant liqueur juicy fruit. Smooth cassis tones if slightly one dimensional.	2011	86	2011-2018
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2012: toasted chary notes over jammy black fruits , supple and easy going, not typically Cabernet, though and lighter style.	2012	83	2012-2019
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2014: juicy, easy-going and with dark fruit impact. Less oaky than previous, a nice quaffer.	2014	82	2014-2022
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2016: blue fruited, with easy-going palate feel, pleasant, clean and fun.	2016	81	2016-2024
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2017: pale depth, dry nose, then bright forward fruit opening to a more sappy finish, enjoy young.	2017	84	2017-2024
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2018: lots of tar notes, dark and spicy and feeling	2018	81	2018-2025
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a touch burnt, hearty and assertive if unremarkable.

Welmoed Shiraz

R

	2007 85 2007-2013
2010: mid depth and mid weight, fruity nose of red berry jam. Juicy, clean and enjoyable.	2010 84 2010-2018
2017: fullish and with gentle, supple tannins, dark blackberry fruit and lush mouthfeel. Easy-going and very fruity.	2017 85 2017-2025
2018: rich purple hue, bright and bold juicy bluefruits, not too grippy, honest and accessible.	2018 85 2018-2026

Heydens Courage White

R

2009: pale gold, floral notes then ripe pineapple and peach flavours. Soft and supple with a full, mineral finish.	2009 80 2009-2015
2018: delightful six grape export blend, perfumed, quite viscous with pink grapefruit, peach and mandarin, nice mineral touch.	2018 86 2018-2026

Heydens Courage Red

R

2010: deeply coloured, jammy fruit pastille nose and hints of pencils and plums in the mouth. Easy, lozenge-like style.	2010 84 2010-2017
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Kumkani Sauvignon Blanc

R

	2009 85 2009-2014
2010: pale lime, shy nose, crisp clean lemony fruit.	2010 83 2010-2015

Kumkani Chardonnay/Viognier R

2008: light gold, creamy pears and apples with guava. Fuller bodied with generous fruit.	2008	86	2008-2015
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Kumkani Viognier R

	2005	86	2005-2012
	2007	85	2007-2011

Kumkani Chenin Blanc R

	2006	80	2006-2014
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Kumkani Chardonnay R

2011: wood notes over woody flavours with a hint of fruit trying to emerge.	2011	76	2011-2018
2014: just enough fresh tropical fruit to rise above apparent wood influence. Quite forceful.	2014	79	2014-2021

Kumkani Pinotage RR

	2006	80	2006-2012
2009: mid depth, ripe berry nose, oaky tannins and sweet fruit, finishing very dry.	2009	87	2010-2017

Kumkani Shiraz / Viognier R

	2006	91	2007-2018
2007: smoky, peppery nose with floral notes, then a lighter style in the mouth, lacking precision but enjoyable.	2007	83	2007-2016

Kumkani Shiraz/ Cabernet R

2009: mid hued and mid weight, smooth and easy with a peppery spice bit at finish. **2009 87 2009-2018**

Kumkani Shiraz R

2005 85 2005-2012
2009: deep purple, shy nose then dark, bramble fruit with subtle oak and a savoury herbal sweet finish. Delicious. **2009 87 2010-2018**

Cradle Hill Cabernet Sauvignon RR

2007 88 2007-2018

SV Sauvignon Blanc R

2017: overt green citrus fruit, bursting out in a lovely way, light and breezy. **2017 81 2017-2025**
2018: overt, huge nose, grassy and classic cat's pee nose, grapefruit crunch, zesty, emphatic and delicious, a big step up. **2018 90 2018-2028**

SV Unwooded Chardonnay R

2017: beautifully balanced, with unctuous exotic fruit impact and lingering flavours, excellent wine. **2017 88 2017-2025**
2018: lees weight adds richness to this pale, stone fruited wine, with good intensity if not showy. **2018 87 2018-2026**
2021: clean and more precise, with gentle summer fruit, perhaps lacking in something to stand out. **2021 87 2021-2028**

SV Bush Vine Chenin Blanc

R

2017: soft, lush and full bodied, with papaya and pineapple and oozing fruit. Delicious.

2017 87 2017-2027

2018: pale but overt, full and soft in the mouth, with deep green fruits and lingering flavours, very nice.

2018 86 2018-2028**SV Limited Release Verdelho**

RRR

2016: heavy textured nose then opening to Chenin/Chardonnay-like tangy fruit bite, mid weighted.

2016 86 2016-2026**SV Pinotage**

R

2016: soft and smooth, with dark cherry and forest fruits, generous and mouthfilling.

2016 84 2016-2026

2017: blueberry nose, very deeply hued, dark fruit palate with good acid brightness, ripe fruited, lush and juicy with a dry finish.

2017 89 2018-2028**SV Cabernet Sauvignon**

R

2016: mint aromas, overt dark fruits, lots of cassis, dark cherry and wood spice, big and smooth. Great value.

2016 90 2018-2028

2017: deep ruby depth, fresh, tangy nose, lip-smacking acid balance, dry and restrained food friendly, enjoyable younger.

2017 88 2018-2028**SV Shiraz**

R

2015: soft and juicy, ready now, with full

2015 86 2015-2025

spicy dark fruits, not too demanding.

2017: mid depth, bright and zingy with explosive fruit punch, ripe and supple and very satisfying.

2017 86 2018-2026

Credo Chardonnay RR

2016: mid straw hue, creamy New world roundness, soft and full with mealy and yellow fruits, big and layered.

2016 89 2017-2027

2018: shy nose, rounder fruited, with some weight and hearty but charming fruit clarity, confident and appealing.

2018 89 2018-2028

2022: big, rich and brooding, needing time but great value for a classy and premium wine.

2022 91 2022-2031

Credo Chenin Blanc RR

2015: attractive nose with oak undertones then full-bodied rich yellow fruit, layered and long.

2015 86 2015-2026

2016: pale gold, glistening yet shy, soft tropical notes, a touch of heat then delicate peach and cream suggestion.

2017 91 2018-2029

2017: glossy mid gold hue, fresh, precise textured nose, lemon and quince and dried orange complexity, wood notes, long and compelling. Delicious.

2017 92 2019-2030

Credo SMV RR

2015: closed at present but rich on the palate, with full, ripe, velvet fruit, dark and spicy with black pepper notes, a big wine.

2015 91 2016-2026

2016: smoother than '15, with slinky huge fruit impact, forward and punchy with mixed berry fruits and spice.

2016 89 2018-2028

2017: deep and compelling, more serious restraint, chunky and textured with a softer, floral and herb

2017 89 2018-2029

dark fruit finish.

Credo Shiraz

RR

2015: oak grip and tight yet, but showing complexity and layered cassis and bramble nose to come. An excellent example.

2015 93 2017-2028

2017: opaque depth, enticing nose, voluptuous dark fruited intensity, hints of spice and wood, blueberry grippy finish, good length.

2017 92 2018-2029

Credo Reserve Pinotage

RRR

2014: bone dry and needing 3 years more, a deep and sumptuous wine which will improve.

2014 90 2015-2026

The Flagship Credo Petit Verdot

RRRR

2012: matured four years yet looking sprightly, with smoky blueberry and herbaceous notes, long, layered and complex.

2012 94 2014-2025

2014: mid weighted, restrained and balanced blue berry fruits, perfumed and tangy, long and lingering, classic flavours and some complexity.

2014 92 2016-2027

Infinity NLH

RR 500ml

2015: faintly tropical with lemon, peach and pear, fresh and finishes clean, good acid balance, a well-made and seductive wine.

2015 88 2015-2028