

Vergelegen Wines

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 Owner(s): Anglo American plc
 Winemaker(s): Luke O'Cuinneagain
 WO; Western Cape /Stellenbosch



South Africa's second oldest estate, full of history and atmosphere, walk the 17 manicured gardens, discover the tree planted in 1700 or dine casually or top-end or just enjoy award-winning wines in the new tasting rooms.

Vintage Score best drinking

Premium Sauvignon Blanc R

| | | | |
|--|-------------|-----------|------------------|
| 2017: lots of green citrus fruit, gooseberry and lime, quite nicely pungent and forward, clean and precise. | 2017 | 87 | 2017-2024 |
| 2018: watery depth, lots of SO2 then bright lemony citrus notes with good weight and a piercing finish of zesty pristine fruit. | 2018 | 88 | 2018-2026 |
| 2019: hugely overt grassy nose with masses of grapefruit punch filling the mouth, clean and refreshing. | 2019 | 88 | 2019-2027 |

Sauvignon Blanc Reserve RRR

| | | | |
|---|-------------|-----------|------------------|
| 2016: huge minerality and stony white fruits, poised and subtle. | 2016 | 88 | 2016-2024 |
| 2017: quite heavy and full, with oak texture, asparagus and quava with citrus brightness, quite a mix. | 2017 | 88 | 2017-2025 |
| 2018: lots of yellow stone fruits and punchy minerality, deep and vinous and quite pleasing. | 2018 | 86 | 2018-2025 |

The Gauntlet Roussanne/Sauvignon Blanc R

| | | | |
|---|-------------|-----------|------------------|
| 2013: old gold depth with lees contact suggestion, | 2013 | 90 | 2014-2024 |
|---|-------------|-----------|------------------|

wood suggestion, MLF, oxidised suggestion,
everything, in fact, but rich and totally convincing despite.

Semillon

RRR

| | | | |
|--|------|----|-----------|
| | 2006 | 90 | 2007-2018 |
| 2016: deep and richly fruited, green citrus and heavier wax notes, tangy and layered. Very nice | 2016 | 88 | 2017-2027 |
| 2017: pale and not overly waxy style, youthful freshness, mixed floral fruits, good acid lift, supportive oak. Needs a few years. | 2017 | 87 | 2019-2029 |

Premium Chardonnay

RR

| | | | |
|---|------|----|-----------|
| 2014: delightful balance of fresh, clean fruit and full bodied impact. Rich, juicy and quite fine. | 2014 | 90 | 2014-2022 |
| 2015: full fruity palate, lots of pear and peach fruits, wood nicely restrained. | 2015 | 87 | 2015-2022 |
| 2017: nicely balanced oak influence on a fresh, pale wine, hints of tropical fruits. | 2017 | 88 | 2017-2027 |
| 2018: lighter styled with creamy yellow fruits, tropical notes and a friendly, pleasant finish. | 2018 | 88 | 2018-2027 |

Chardonnay Reserve

RRR

| | | | |
|---|------|----|-----------|
| | 2007 | 89 | 2007-2017 |
| 2016: weighty yet staying fresh and vibrant, obvious wood backbone, lots of fruit ring flavours, needs time. | 2016 | 88 | 2017-2028 |
| 2017: oaky forward nose with creamy MLF and vanilla then full and rich peach and stone fruit flavours, long and layered. | 2017 | 91 | 2018-2029 |

Vergelegen GVB White

RRRR

| | | | |
|---|------|----|-----------|
| | 2007 | 91 | 2007-2018 |
| 2014: floral, smoky, lees rich with lush fruits, balanced and exotic, delicious. | 2014 | 88 | 2014-2024 |
| 2015: big and rich and layered, with peach pit and pear notes, forward and intense. | 2015 | 89 | 2016-2026 |
| 2016: frontal SO2 revealing wood sinew, hay and wax notes, with savoury herbs and a tangy bite, complex and needs air to reveal. | 2016 | 92 | 2018-2027 |
| 2017: very pale despite very sexy and ripe layered fruit enjoyment, lingering and mouthfilling stone fruit balance and class. | 2017 | 93 | 2018-2028 |

The Gauntlet Grenache

R

| | | | |
|---|------|----|-----------|
| 2013: excellent fruit quality on an elegant yet quietly powerful wine, with ripe sweet cherry notes and silky mouthfeel. | 2013 | 91 | 2015-2024 |
|---|------|----|-----------|

Merlot

RR

| | | | |
|---|------|----|-----------|
| 2017: dusty tannins on a nicely balanced winter cherry and berry fruit base, still clean and deep at age six, very accessible. | 2017 | 89 | 2018-2027 |
|---|------|----|-----------|

Reserve Merlot

RRR

| | | | |
|---|------|----|-----------|
| 2003: tasted at 13 years and sadly faded, with haunting promise of what was. | 2003 | 87 | 2003-2015 |
| | 2005 | 90 | 2006-2016 |
| 2007: already showing development at six years, rich, structured and restrained, a food wine. | 2007 | 88 | 2008-2019 |
| 2013: red and mixed dark fruits in a deep and brooding style for the variety, already showing development. | 2013 | 88 | 2014-2024 |

| | | | |
|---|-------------|-----------|------------------|
| 2015: leading with cedar and tangy mixed currant fruity flavours, bold and dark and finishing dry and memorable. | 2015 | 91 | 2017-2028 |
|---|-------------|-----------|------------------|

Mistake Merlot RRR

| | | | |
|--|-------------|-----------|------------------|
| 2014: full depth, richly nosed with serious blue fruits and black cherry, powerful but still elegant and charming, finishing long and focussed. | 2014 | 90 | 2016-2026 |
|--|-------------|-----------|------------------|

Premium Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot RR

| | | | |
|---|-------------|-----------|------------------|
| 2012: released at age six, showing balance and suppleness with big juicy fruit, simple but enjoyable. | 2012 | 86 | 2013-2022 |
| 2013: sweet earth and plum note, showing great purity at age seven, still lots of fruit and lovely balance. | 2013 | 89 | 2015-2026 |

Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon RRR

| | | | |
|--|-------------|-----------|------------------|
| | 2005 | 89 | 2006-2017 |
| 2012: quite pale, with red berry fruits, bright and nervy, but opening nicely. | 2012 | 88 | 2013-2023 |
| 2013: at age five showing leather and restrained fruit profile, then opening to rich and lush fruit palate, almost lozenge-like suppleness. | 2013 | 89 | 2014-2025 |
| 2014: deep hue, shy nose, opens with dark bramble fruit, nicely balanced. | 2014 | 90 | 2016-2025 |

First Thought Cabernet Sauvignon RRRR

| | | | |
|---|-------------|-----------|------------------|
| 2014: still young at age five, with deep plummy notes, pencil hint and refined but generous fruit, still improving. | 2014 | 91 | 2017-2027 |
| 2015: ruby depth, lighter style yet so rich and silky soft tannins, lingering blue and red currant fruit, | 2015 | 92 | 2017-2028 |

classy and compelling.

Premium Shiraz

RR

| | | | |
|---|------|----|-----------|
| 2015: purple brightness, dark berry nose, forward, juicy and fruity, plum and berry delight, great value. | 2015 | 89 | 2016-2026 |
| 2016: glossy purple hue, lots of perfumed ripe fruit and violets, juicy, honest and bright, good value. | 2016 | 89 | 2017-2027 |
| 2017: ruby shine, juicy forward black fruits, not a spicy version, but smooth and easy and comforting. | 2017 | 88 | 2018-2027 |

Reserve Shiraz

RRR

| | | | |
|--|------|----|-----------|
| | 2006 | 88 | 2007-2018 |
| | 2007 | 89 | 2008-2019 |
| 2013: deep berry fruits, warm and full, rather swathed in cedar and oak tannins. At 5 years still cloaked. | 2013 | 84 | 2014-2023 |
| 2015: very deep, with plums and mixed spices, not too peppery, big and layered and lush. | 2015 | 91 | 2017-2027 |

DNA Reserve

RRR

| | | | |
|--|------|----|-----------|
| 2013: hint of leafy green dried raspberry fruits, then bitter cherry and black forest notes, spicy, firm and layered, very classy. | 2013 | 88 | 2015-2026 |
|--|------|----|-----------|

Vergelegen GVB Red

RRRR

| | | | |
|--|------|----|-----------|
| | 2003 | 92 | 2004-2020 |
| | 2004 | 91 | 2006-2020 |
| 2012: even smells rich and dense, tastes lighter, very dry spicy red rustic berries. | 2012 | 91 | 2014-2022 |
| 2013: ruby red with slight rim fade at age five, floral | 2013 | 92 | 2015-2026 |

red berry nose, plum and cassis flavours, balanced
and long and delicious.

Vergelegen V

RRRR

| | | | |
|---|------|----|-----------|
| | 2008 | 90 | 2010-2022 |
| 2012: mid garnet with some development at age six, red berry leafy nose, tobacco and date richness, smooth, deep but not heavy, intense, complex and fine. | 2012 | 94 | 2014-2026 |
| 2013: just mid garnet with a serious, sappy rich nose and subtle, harmonious and silky fruit mouthfeel, distinguished, lingering and complex, beautiful. | 2013 | 95 | 2015-2028 |

Straw Wine

RR

| | | | |
|---|------|----|-----------|
| 2013: dusty straw and forest nose, wood hint, textured quince and orange savoury fruit, finishes quite dry for 115gRS. | 2013 | 89 | 2015-2025 |
| 2015: very pale and hiding its 95g of RS, lots of straw and passion fruit with savoury herb, agile and delicate and very clean and refreshing. | 2015 | 91 | 2016-2027 |

