

THE 34 SOUTH WINE PANEL



20 years ago – a year after 34 South opened on the Knysna Waterfront as a partnership between Charles van Tonder and Leslie Pieters, Charles asked PeeBee (Peter Bishop, a Mathematics teacher and Sports coach) to procure some old wines to sell and to advise on selections. Some great collections were sold and people came back each year looking for their birthday year wine or “What’s new?”

We started a popular PeeBee’s Top Ten that made searching easier, and the big selling point was the story as narrated or as hand-written on cards. In that way, each customer was a winner – he had something he could brag about – and why not.

PeeBee’s interest in wine started in 1975 by BeeJay Lankwarden – a man of great kindness and aplomb. He has written on wine for Wynboer and for the CXPress and, now resident in Cape Town still attends top tastings to keep informed.

PeeBee, Charles and Keith (Davis) – the Manager of 34 South – taste wines periodically in order to create a “A Rare and Fine Wine” Selection more specifically aimed at the tourist who wishes to be exposed to a higher level of wine than on ordinary lists.

PeeBee looks at the structure, the memory, the length of the wine. Charles makes no apology for his role: “I taste it, I like it. It is eminently drinkable!” Keith, who deals directly with the Fine Wine lover focuses on the finish in so far as the wine matches the dishes at 34 South.

PeeBee



CEDERBERG CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2016 *****

Back in 1973 the Nieuwoudt Dynasty planted “Stellenbosch” grapes in the cool Cederberg. Big wine with lots to like : bright black cherried and plummy fruit, well-integrated tannins and bouncy acidity all handling weighty alcohol (14,5) nicely, 2016’s oaking, 60% new, adds delicious vanilla lick at tail.



SARONSBERG SHIRAZ 2016 ****

As rich in local and international awards as in ripe, near-sweet power - expressed with usual refinement in 2016. Lovely supple tannin plenty of French oak (80% new, 20 months) and 14,4% alcohol continue the big, bold and rewarding style.



REYNEKE “CORNERSTONE” 2014 ****

Well melded trio of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Cabernet Franc spiced with 30% new oak - suited to the midday meal or to the lighter style but with purity of fruit and that sense of biodynamics. Classic dark-fruited aromas, creamy flesh and lively, fresh structure already hapily absorbed.



NEWTON JOHNSON PINOT NOIR 2107 *****

From all soils of farm’s sites. 2017 resumes remarkable track record after blip in 2016. Perfumed with cranberries and violets; denser fruit substrata from clay-rich vineyards; then firm structure from higher-lying gravel, with Burgundian oak boost. Finesse, elegance, complexity.

FINE & RARE WINES BY THE GLASS

SHANNON MOUNT BULLET MERLOT 2014 R165

CEDERBERG CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2016 R70

DELHEIM VERA CRUZ PINOTAGE 2014 R145

MEERLUST RUBICON 2015 R150

DELHEIM GRAND RESERVE 2014 R110

IONA SYRAH SOLACE 2015 R110

REYNEKE "CORNERSTONE" 2014 R90

THELEMA CABERNET SAUVIGNON R110

NEWTON JOHNSON PINOT NOIR 2017 FAMILY RANGE R150

LONGRIDGE EKLIPTIKA 2014 R170

VRIESENHOF PINOTAGE 2009 R85

DIE PLEK CINSAULT 2016 R160

RUST EN VREDE SINGLE VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2014 R170

SPRINGFIELD WORK OF TIME R70

SARONSBURG SHIRAZ R100

Detailed tasting notes and the full Rare & Fine collection can be found in our wine shop.

FINE & RARE WINE TASTING

Indulge in a tasting of four fine and rare wines - Cabernet Sauvignon, Bordeaux Blend, Syrah and Pinot Noir to entice and enhance your gastronomic experience and understand exactly why these are indeed Fine and Rare and belong in your collection too.

R60



FINE & RARE WINES - OUR FAVOURITES

These fine wines are the **BEST** that we've tasted, that are currently available.

Sublime, elegant, structured and above all, wines with **ATTITUDE**.

Conventional wine tastings use the 100 point system which is "VERY COMPLICATED".

At our **LATITUDE**, Keith, PeeBee and I focussed on **TASTE** only - after all, that's the bottom line.

These winners below all scored 8 to 9 out of 10 - truly great examples of the winemaker's art.

We **LOVED** them and hope **YOU** will too.



SHANNON MOUNT BULLET MERLOT 2014

R645

On 4th August 2011 Jamey held a tasting (blind!) where he compared the Mount Bullet (the peak above the farm in Elgin) to the glorious Chateau Petrus that would cost you R20,000! The Mount Bullet won on every scorecard. Petrus is the 100% Right Bank Bordeaux of all Merlot wine. So in no way is Shannon moving IDEWAYS. Intensity!

CEDERBERG CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2016

R480

A big wine with lots to like, bright black cherries and plummy fruit. It has well integrated tannins and bouncy acidity. The oaking adds a delicious vanilla lick at the tail.

KANONKOP BLACK LABEL PINOTAGE 2015

R2495

Rated Number One at any tasting offering this wine. The glory of Pinotage. In 1955 Bellevue, Delheim, Kanonkop planted the first Pinotage (a 1925 cross of Pinot Noir and Hermitage (Cinsaut). These arms are now like rigger players thighs – with a low yield producing intense concentration.

MEERLUST RUBICON 2015

R595

A medium bodied palate with a lovely composure about it - pretty much corresponds to your mind's eye picture of what Rubicon at its best should taste like.

DELHEIM VERA CRUZ PINOTAGE 2014

R565

In 1998 Spatz Sperlong celebrated with the Vera Cruz Merlot, Pinotage, Sauvignon Blanc & Syrah – but thereafter only put the Vera Cruz label as Delheim's icon. After re-fashioning the vines and soil, the MD Reg Hillier and Victor Sperling realised what a truly brilliant Pinotage emerged in 2014 – this is it! A Command Performance.

DELHEIM GRAND RESERVE

R425

The 2014 was the re-introduction of Spatz's pride, with firm darker berries and an excellent structure. As the wine airs you will pick up that lovely Cabernet grip – the "lead pencils" if you wish.

FINE & RARE WINES - OUR FAVOURITES

IONA SYRAH SOLACE 2015

R425

Who introduced "Cool Area Shiraz" into the Cape? Andrew Gunn ordered Pinot Noir for his high placed Elgin property. One after the next caught on & Syrah from the Cool areas had a great run. Taste this 2015 and experience grace and lushness – ripeness and appeal.

SARONSBURG SHIRAZ 2016

R395

As rich in local and international awards as in ripe, near-sweet power - expressed with usual refinement in 2016. Lovely supple tannin plenty of French oak (80% new, 20 months) and 14,4% alcohol continue the big, bold and rewarding style.

NEWTON JOHNSON PINOT NOIR 2017 FAMILY RANGE

R595

This wine sells out – for 2 reasons. Firstly for 8 successive vintages, the Family Pinot Noir earned 5 stars in the Platter Guide. The other reason is the mentality of Dave Johnson's family. Son Gordon is devoted to Pinot Noir, sourcing from 3 different vineyards. He aims at fruit and softer texture. .

LONGRIDGE EKLIPTIKA 2014 /2015

R675

Led by Cabernet Franc with the wildness of fynbos holding and truly excellent darker berries. Two years in 90% new oak gives texture to the wine. A Command Performance.

VRIESENHOF PINOTAGE 2009 (PeeBee's dream wine)

R325

Jan "Boland" Coetzee – who left Kanonkop in 1980 to do his own thing at Vriesenhof having retired after 13 seasons with the Maties, having captained Province and played flank for the Boks – does not release his wines chronologically. Indeed he has not "officially" released the 2009, but so impressed was the 34 South panel, that he relented.

DIE PLEK CINSAULT 2016 (from the Helderberg)

R625

Cinsaut – at one stage called Hermitage and Pinot Noir, mothered the first Pinotage in 1925. Sadie's Pofadder from Riebeeck Kasteel is truly world class. Jasper Raats, joint owner of Longridge found a 60 year old Cinsaut block in Stellenbosch and resolved to produce a reflection of the unique place – Die Plek.

RUST EN VREDE SINGLE VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2014

R625

Getting evenly ripened berries even in an inconsistent vintage, creates a wine to remember. Situated in the Helderberg where the darker berries and cherry flavours show proudly, the challenge is to integrate the fruit, the wildness and the new oak in which the wine is fermented. A highpoint in your tasting experience.

THELEMA CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2015

R450

Complex and stylish with aromas of ripe blackcurrant, dark chocolate and pencil shavings. This wine is bone dry, yet exhibits a lovely sweet fruit character on the palate, with a lovely long finish.

REYNEKE "CORNERSTONE" 2014

R345

The country's leading BIO-DYNAMIC (in the true sense of the word) producer is Johan Reyneke who using the principles of Bio-Dynamics, made his first "Cornerstone". The current Cornerstone is an open style Cape Bordeaux blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Cabernet Franc.

SPRINGFIELD WORK OF TIME 2012

R275

This 4 way blend from old vines is graceful and understated. Real unhurried wine making with natural fermentation using grapes from the original vineyard planted over 20 years ago!