

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

RUST EN VREDE SINGLE VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON

2014 *****



Although Coenie Snyman – who moved to R en V in 2016 – generally make huge bold wines, the advantage of getting evenly ripened berries even in an inconsistent vintage, creates a wine to remember. Situated in the Helderberg where the darker berries & cherry flavours show proudly, the challenge is to integrate the fruit, the wildness and the new oak in which the wine is fermented. A high point in your tasting experience.

DIEMERSDAL PRIVATE COLLECTION 2015 *****

A Cape Bordeaux blend led by 67% Cabernet Sauvignon from this huge Durbanville farm with some of the oldest soils worldwide. That amazing “eucalyptus” feel on the palate supported by beautiful red berries. The talents of young Tienie Louw are being revealed.



IONA SYRAH SOLACE 2015

Cool area Shiraz, originally when planted by Andrew Gunn on his Elgin site thinking it was Pinot Noir, produced a softer, silkier, smother mouthfeel. Exciting. Since then a number of Cool Area Syrah have emerged, winning accolades. More amenable and accessible in the mouth. This SOLace is in high demand. It is a story of taste, of silkiness, of understanding of the Southern Rhone. None of that aggression often associated with Shiraz in the Cape.



BOUCHARD FINLAYSON PINOT NOIR GALPIN PEAK 2015 *****

I have tasted Peter Finlayson's Pinot Noir since 1979 and “By God” this one is so close to perfection. Pinot Noir is like the people you know. Take them for their faults and you will love them. So what when it all comes together? Treasure the moment. Why ruin that memory with a card-ful of words! Congratulations Peter who started his winemaking over 40 years ago. Let's hope that Nature blesses you in the remaining vintage you experience. Something regal about being a Peter.



FINE & RARE WINES BY THE GLASS

IONA CHARDONNAY 2016 R110

SHANNON MOUNT BULLET MERLOT 2014 R165

KANONKOP PAUL SAUER 2014 R215

CEDERBERG SHIRAZ 2015 R95

DELHEIM VERA CRUZ PINOTAGE 2014 R145

MEERLUST RUBICON 2015 R150

DELHEIM GRAND RESERVE 2014 R110

IONA SYRAH SOLACE 2015 R110

REYNEKE "CORNERSTONE" 2014 R90

BOUCHARD FINLAYSON PINOT NOIR GALPIN
PEAK 2015 R120

NEWTON JOHNSON PINOT NOIR 2016 FAMILY
RANGE R115

LONGRIDGE EKLIPTIKA 2014 R170

VRIESENHOF PINOTAGE 2009 R85

DIE PLEK CINSAULT 2016 R160

RUST EN VREDE SINGLE VINEYARD CABERNET
SAUVIGNON 2014 R170

DIEMERSDAL PRIVATE COLLECTION 2015 R65

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 to.

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.

Three handwritten signatures in black ink. The first is 'PeeBee', the second is 'Keith' with a horizontal line underneath, and the third is a stylized signature that appears to be 'I'.

IONA CHARDONNAY 2016

Fermented in 20% new Oak barrels to produce light lime texture. A beautiful mouthfeel, clean fruit and balance. Elgin fruit is a touch softer than warmer region.

SHANNON MOUNT BULLET MERLOT 2014

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 **SIDEWAYS**. Intensity!

KANONKOP PAUL SAUER 2014

A Cape Bordeaux blend that caused a sensation in 1980 with Welgemeend, Overgaauw, Delheim and of course Rubicon. Beyers Truter called his first release Paul Sauer La Fleur – but from the first seriously marketed 1985 Futures scheme, it stuck to the name of politician owner.

CEDERBERG SHIRAZ 2015

High accolades given at all tastings to this stunning dark berry, cherry North Rhone lookalike. Brilliant succulence with soft tannins. The cool evenings – the immaculately groomed vineyards – and the focus in the cellar of Dawid Niewoudt.

KANONKOP BLACK LABEL PINOTAGE 2015

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

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

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

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

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 lusciousness – ripeness and appeal.

BOUCHARD FINLAYSON PINOT NOIR GALPIN PEAK 2015

I have tasted Peter Finlayson’s Pinot Noir since 1979 and “By God” this one is so close to perfection. Pinot Noir is like the people you know. Take them for their faults and you will love them. So what when it all comes together? Treasure the moment.

NEWTON JOHNSON PINOT NOIR 2016 FAMILY RANGE

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

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)

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 CINSAUT 2016 (from the Helderberg)

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

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.

DIEMERSDAL PRIVATE COLLECTION 2015

A Cape Bordeaux blend led by 67% Cabernet Sauvignon. That amazing “eucalyptus” feel on the palate supported by beautiful ripe red berries. The talents of young Tienie Louw are being revealed – especially in the two Sauvignons – Cabernet Sauvignon and Sauvignon Blanc.

REYNEKE “CORNERSTONE” 2014

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.