



K A P W E I N E

The Home of South African Wines

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Montag – Freitag 9.00 – 18.00  
Donnerstag 9.00 – 20.00  
Samstag 10.00 – 16.00

## Platter's 5\* Wines for 2015

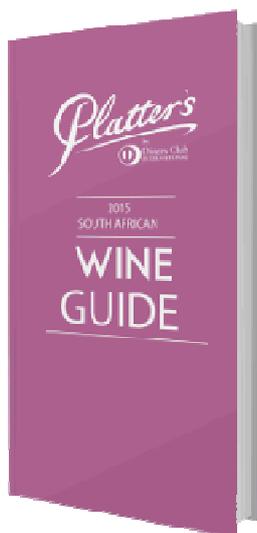
Die 5\* Platter's Weine sind jedes Jahr ein Highlight der Südafrikanischen Weinindustrie. Dieses Jahr wurden aus ca. 7000 Weinen lediglich 50 Weine mit 5\* ausgezeichnet – im Vorjahr waren es noch 80 Weine. Daher sind 5\* für jeden Weine eine ausserordentliche Auszeichnung!! Selbstverständlich finden Sie bei [www.kapweine.ch](http://www.kapweine.ch) die grösste Auswahl an verfügbaren 5\* Weinen. Das Pedigree unserer Produzenten Auswahl wird hierdurch wieder einmal dick unterstrichen! Bitte bestellen Sie Ihre 5\* Weine umgehend um Enttäuschungen zu vermeiden. Die **gelb markierten 5\* Weine** sind oder werden bei uns verfügbar sein. Das sind immerhin die Hälfte aller mit 5\* ausgezeichneten Weine.

## Diners Club and Platter's launch 2015 South African Wine Guide

28 October 2014 - by - [Platter's South African Wine Guide](#)

*Sadie Family Wines honoured as Winery of the Year for historic second time*

[http://www.wine.co.za/news/news.aspx?NEWSID=25815&utm\\_content=buffer0af51&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter.com&utm\\_campaign=buffer](http://www.wine.co.za/news/news.aspx?NEWSID=25815&utm_content=buffer0af51&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer)



The *Platter's by Diners Club South African Wine Guide 2015* was launched at a gathering of the who's who of the wine industry at Cape Town's Mount Nelson Hotel today. Over 200 guests were eager to discover which wines achieved five star status, and to celebrate the white wine of the year, the red wine of the year, and the wine estate taking the ultimate accolade as the *Platter's* South African winery of the year for 2015.

Diners Club and *Platter's* are delighted to announce that the Swartland-based **Sadie Family Wines is the Guide's Winery of the Year** for a historic second time. The winery first took the honour in 2010 and it is the only winery to emerge from this year's stringent judging process with three maximum five star ratings for the 2015 edition of *Platter's*. Congratulations further go to **De Trafford Blueprint Syrah 2012**, hailed as **Red Wine of the Year**, and **DeMorgenzon Reserve Chardonnay 2013**, celebrated as the **White Wine of the Year**. The 2015 guide features 50 five star wines and one new five star brandy.

Publisher of *Platter's*, Jean-Pierre Rossouw, says: "We introduced a new five star tastings system for the 2015 guide that saw small panels of tasters assessing each category meticulously and in an unhurried fashion. Therefore, producers that have achieved five stars in the 2015 guide can be sure that their wine or



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wines are truly exceptional. At the same time, there were many very tight decisions and hotly debated wines – making the list of Highly Recommended wines replete with fantastic options that just missed the cut.”

Rossouw adds, “*Platter’s* is different in that it is a wine *guide* – and not a competition per se. Our expert tasters initially assess the wines sighted, to assist learning as much as possible about the intent of the producer and the wine’s back-story, as well as vital details such as site and climate. But when it comes to the five star tasting, we shift to a blind tasting format as we are then comparing wines against each other within categories.”

This year also saw nine wineries achieving five stars for the first time: Creation Wines, Crystallum, Diners Club Bartho Eksteen Academy, Fram, Iona, Oldenburg, Porseleinberg, Stellenbosch Vineyards/Flagship and Sumaridge.

Major achievers in *Platter’s* 2015:

### **Winery of the Year**

**Sadie Family Wines**

### **White Wine of the Year**

DeMorgenon Reserve Chardonnay 2013

### **Red Wine of the Year**

**De Trafford Blueprint Syrah 2013**

### **Wines rated Five Stars:**

#### **Méthode Cap Classique**

**Graham Beck Blanc de Blancs Brut 2009**

#### **Chardonnay**

DeMorgenon Reserve 2013

Iona 2013

Richard Kershaw Elgin 2013

Sterhuis Barrel Selection 2012

#### **Chenin Blanc**

Alheit Vineyards Magnetic North Mountain Makstok 2013

Fram 2013

Kaapzicht The 1947 2013

#### **Grenache Blanc**

**The Foundry 2013**

#### **Sauvignon Blanc**

**Buitenverwachting Husseys Vlei 2013**

Diners Club Bartho Eksteen Academy CWG Auction Reserve Vloekskoot 2013

**Reyneke Reserve White 2013**



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## **Semillon**

Vergelegen Reserve 2013

## **White Blends**

Constantia Uitsig Constantia 2012

David Aristargos 2013

DeMorgenzon Maestro 2013

Flagstone Treaty Tree Reserve 2013

Miles Mossop Saskia 2012

Oak Valley Mountain Reserve 2010

Sadie Family Wine Palladius 2012

Sadie Family Wines Die Ouwingerdreeks Skerpioen 2012

## **Cabernet Franc**

Warwick 2011

## **Cabernet Sauvignon**

Groot Constantia 2012

Le Riche Reserve 2011

Nederburg II Centuries 2010

Oldenburg Vineyards 2011

Stark-Condé Three Pines 2012

## **Cinsaut**

Sadie Die Ouwingerdreeks Pofadder 2013

## **Petit Verdot**

Stellenbosch Vineyards Flagship 2010

## **Pinotage**

Flagstone Time Manner Place 2012

Kanonkop Black Label 2012

## **Pinot Noir**

Creation Reserve 2013

Crystallum Cuvée Cinema 2013

Newton Johnson Family Vineyards 2013

Sumaridge 2012

## **Red Blends**

Delaire Graff Botmaskop 2012

Ernie Els CWG Auction Reserve 2012

Hartenberg The Mackenzie 2011

Thelema Rabelais 2010

Vilafonté Series C 2011

## **Shiraz**

Boekenhoutskloof Syrah 2012



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Boschendal Cecil John Reserve 2012  
De Trafford Blueprint Syrah 2013  
Fable Mountain Vineyards Syrah 2012  
Porseleinberg 2012

**Sweet wine, Unfortified**

Delheim Edelspatz Noble Late Harvest 2013  
Mullineux & Leeu Family Wines Straw Wine 2013

**Sweet wine, Fortified**

Nuy White Muscadel 2013

**Port-style**

Boplaas Cape Tawny Reserve NV  
De Krans Cape Vintage Reserve 2012

**Brandy**

KWV 12 Year Old Barrel Select



JP Rossouw



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Eben Sadie



Wilhelm Pienaar(Nederburg)



Danie Steytler & his wife(Kaapzicht)



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Wendy Appelbaum, JP, Carl vd Merwe(DeMorgenzon)



JP, Lee & David Trafford



JP Rossouw, Bartho Eksteen, Lee, Sune Eksteen

## news

[New publisher for Platters Wine Guide »](#)

## wineries

[Stellenbosch Vineyards](#)

[Boplaas Family Vineyards Since 1880](#)

[Boschendal Wines](#)

[Delaire Graff Estate](#)

[Delheim](#)

[De Krans Wines](#)

[Groot Constantia Estate \(founded 1685\)](#)

[Hartenberg Estate](#)

[Kaazicht Wine Estate](#)

[Nederburg Wines](#)

[De Trafford Wines](#)

[Graham Beck Wines](#)

[Oak Valley](#)

[Ernie Els Wines](#)

[Creation Wines](#)

[Oldenburg Vineyards](#)

[KWV Wines](#)



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<http://www.winemag.co.za/fewer-5-star-wines-in-platters-a-necessary-recalibration/>

So what are the surprises in this year's list of Platter's 5-star wines? Perhaps, firstly, that there are just 50 of them (plus one new brandy – only new brandies were tasted this year). That's down from 80 wines last year. It's a good move on the whole to tighten up standards, though I do think we tasters for Platter's 2015 were generally rather too severe at this final hurdle (though not necessarily at earlier stages) – especially with chenin blanc and shiraz, the big losers this year along with dessert wines.

Last year there were 11 cheniens and 11 shirazes, this time there are just three and five, respectively. Three cheniens is surely too few for arguably, along with white blends, the Cape's strongest category. Clearly a panel in austere mood. I was judging shiraz, and we were probably also too harsh, even if the overall reduced number is, in principle, a good move.

The radical drop in cheniens and dessert wines (just two desserts this year, after seven last year) played a substantial role in the overall red:white ratio. There were more 5-star reds than whites this year (including all the fortifieds): 24 whites, 26 reds. Last year whites led by a long way – which I'm confident is the way it should be!

Also playing a part in the colour balance was the generosity of the panel judging pinot noir, with four triumphing (just one last year). All lovely wines but, as I suggested in an earlier post on this site, aren't we being a little too kind to our pinots (see here)?

One of them, Newton Johnson Family Vineyards 2013, is, I think, now the only wine in Platter's to have an unblemished lengthy record of 5-star wins, having first made it with the maiden 2008. Rather sadly, Nederburg Ingenuity White stumbled this year, for the first time since the 2007.

But it's good to see Boekenhoutskloof represented again – I think this is their 16th 5-star, surely more than anyone else? And Sadie Family, with three this year (and one could easily imagine that number being higher) becomes the first winery to get a second Winery of the Year Award – in the same year that it was voted the country's best by the international panel of judges I convened for the Mail & Guardian.

A surprise must be Gottfried Mocke going hungry – after leading Chamonix to being Winery of the Year in the 2013 edition. At least Mullineux, last year's top winery, got one, to keep their place warm.

If Sadie scooped up that bit of prestige for the Swartland, Stellenbosch won both Wines of the Year: De Trafford Blueprint Syrah 2012, and DeMorgenzon Reserve Chardonnay 2013 – the second successive year White Wine of the Year has gone to this ever-rising winery (last year it was the Maestro white blend).

Stellenbosch was the runaway winner when it comes to origins of 5-star wines (incidentally, how good to note that the overwhelming majority had specific origins – not Coastal, etc). A rough count gives me 18 from Stellenbosch, with Swartland way behind with seven, and Hemel-en-Aarde with five (all four pinots!). But at least 10 other significant areas shared in the spoils, from Elim right up north to Olifants River.

It has to be a controversial, debatable list, of course. But the new rigour and care taken in selecting 5-star winners has been a good thing. If it heralds a general tightening of standards, even better. Cape wine has seen such improvements in the last decade or so that a radical recalibration by Platter's – from top to bottom – is most desirable.



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