

Platter's South Africa announces Pinnacle Award winners

Platter's by Diners Club Wine Guide has revealed the recipients of the Wineries of the Year, Wines of the Year and Five Star Wines.



Image supplied: Top Performing Winery of the Year went to Mullineux

This 43rd edition of South Africa's favourite wine guide features well over 900 producers, merchants and brands, including 37 new ones, and over 8,000 locally produced wines, as well as brandies, husk spirits and sherry-style wines.

A highlight of any new edition is the trio of prestigious Winery of the Year awards, the highest accolades bestowed by Platter's.

The Top Performing Winery of the Year goes to the winery that achieves the most five-star ratings after the annual final tasting round. This year the worthy recipient is Mullineux, with an astonishing run of eight five-star results. This is the stellar Swartland-based venture's fifth time as Platter's highest achiever, having been the best-performing winery in 2014, 2016, 2019 and 2020.

The Editor's Award Winery of the Year recognises a winegrowing individual or team who, based on performance in the current edition as well as their track record, are ambassadors of par excellence for South African wine. This year the award goes to Cape Winemakers Guild member Duncan Savage and his Cape Town boutique winery Savage Wines. Last year Savage Wines achieved a remarkable seven five-star ratings. An amazing five such rankings this year, once again

proving Duncan's consistency as a trailblazer and undoubtedly one of the Cape's foremost winemakers.



Image supplied: The Editor's Award Winery of the Year went to Duncan Savage

The Newcomer Winery of the Year is awarded to the producer who debuts in Platter's this year and achieves the highest scores. The well-deserved recipient of this distinction is Trade Winds Wine, owned by friends and long-time serious wine aficionados Martin Voigt and Richard Wells, with a brilliant five-star Cabernet Sauvignon blended by Colin Frith, an honorary Cape Wine Master and one of the most experienced men-about-the-winelands.

Wines receiving the sought-after five-star rating in Platter's must undergo a rigorous process of sighted and blind assessment (i.e. with and without sight of the label) by a team of experienced experts. Bottlings that are judged to be "Superlative, a South African classic" are given the highest ranking of five stars, equal to 95 points or better on the 100-point rating scale.

With 28 five stars, Chenin Blanc continues its remarkable performance of recent years and, in a significant development, now not only equals the number of five-star Red Blends but also surpasses the White Blends category's 21 maximum ratings.



Image supplied: The New comer Winery of the Year went to Trade Winds Wine

Together, however, the Blended class (Red and White) remains a powerhouse of quality, responsible for a quarter of all the five-star ratings.

Another category building on an improved base is Chardonnay, adding three 95+ ratings to last year's 19. Other strong performers are Shiraz/Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon, with 16 and 12 wines respectively.

"Another relatively recent development mirrored in the ratings is the release of minuscule special bottlings of an experimental nature, sometimes literally one barrel, intended to explore a particular grape variety, site and/or winegrowing technique, or sometimes simply express the winemakers' personality or vision," says Philip van Zyl, managing director and editor of Platter's.

Also noteworthy are the 291 Highly Recommended wines and brandies, which narrowly missed five stars but are nonetheless extremely fine and collectable, earning a rating of 94 on the 100-point scale.

Wines of the Year

Category	Wine
Cabernet Franc	Mulderbosch Single Vineyard 2019
Cabernet Sauvignon	Le Riche Reserve 2019
Cinsault	Rall 2021
Grenache Noir	Kruger Old Vines 2020
Merlot	Longridge Misterie 2017
Petit Verdot	Benguela Cove Vnography 2020
Pinotage	Kanonkop Black Label 2020
Pinot Noir	Cap Maritime 2021
Shiraz/Syrah	Patatsfontein Sons of Sugarland Syrah 2021
Red Blends, Cape Bordeaux	Fleur du Cap Laszlo 2019
Red Blends, with Pinotage	Beyerskloof Faith 2018
Red Blends, Shiraz/Syrah-based	Sadie Columella 2020
Red Blends, Other	Leeu Passant Dry Red 2019
Chardonnay	Hamilton Russell 2021
Chenin blanc	Mullineux CWG Trifecta 2020
Hárslevelű	Lemberg 2021

Sauvignon Blanc	Bartho Eksteen Houtskool 2021
Semillon	Thorne & Daughters Paper Kite 2021
White Blends, Cape Bordeaux	Benguela Cove Vinography Semillon-Sauvignon Blanc 2021
White Blends, Other	Sadie 'T Voetpad 2021
Cap Classique	Anthonij Rupert L'Ormarins Private Cuvée 2014
Dessert Wine, Fortified	De Krans Muscat Blanc 2022
Natural Sweet	Klein Constantia Vin de Constance 2018
Noble Late Harvest	Paul Clüver Riesling 2021
Vin de Paille	Mullineux Olerasay Straw Wine NV
Port-style	Boplaas Cape Vintage Reserve 2020

Five Star Wines

Cabernet Franc

Botanica Big Flower 2020
David Finlayson Camino Africana 2020
Mulderbosch Single Vineyard 2019
Warwick 2019

Cabernet Sauvignon

Bartinney Skyfall 2017
Benguela Cove Vinography 2019
Erika Obermeyer Erika O 2019
Kanonkop 2018
Le Riche Reserve 2019
Miles Mossop Maximilian CWG 2019
Nederburg Manor House 2019
Restless River Main Road & Dignity 2019
Reyneke Biodynamic Reserve 2019
Rickety Bridge The Bridge 2020
Stark-Condé Oude Nektar 2019
Trade Winds 2019

Cinsault

Kleine Zalze Project Z 2021
Leeu Passant Basson 2020
Rall 2021
Rickety Bridge Paulina's Reserve Old Vine 2021

Grenache Noir

AA Badenhorst Raaigras 2021
David & Nadia 2021
Kruger Old Vines 2020
Mischa Reserve 2021
Momento 2020

Merlot

Longridge Misterie 2017

Petit Verdot

Benguela Cove Vinography 2020

Pinotage

Beeslaar 2020

De Grendel Amandelboord 2020

Diemersdal Prospect 2020

Francois van Niekerk 2020

illimis 2021

Kaapzicht Steytler 2020

Kanonkop Black Label 2020

Survivor Reserve 2020

Pinot Noir

Bosman Hermanus 2021

Cap Maritime 2021

Creation The Art of Pinot Noir 2021

Crystallum Bona Fide 2021

Crystallum Cuvée Cinéma 2021

Crystallum Mabalel 2021

Kara-Tara Reserve 2020

Oak Valley South Ridge PN667 2020

Storm Vrede 2021

Shiraz/Syrah

Boschkloof Epilogue 2020

De Grendel Elim Shiraz 2020

De Grendel Op die Berg Syrah 2021

Harry Hartman Somesay 2021

Hartenberg The Stork 2019

Keermont Topside Syrah 2017

Mullineux Jakkalsfontein Granite Syrah 2020

Mullineux Iron Kasteelsig Syrah 2020

Mullineux Schist Roundstone Syrah 2020

Mullineux Syrah 2020

Patatsfontein Sons of Sugarland Syrah 2021

Rall Ava Syrah 2021

Savage CWG Syrah 2020

Savage Girl Next Door 2021

Savage Red 2020

Wolf & Woman Syrah 2021

Red Blends, Cape Bordeaux

Allée Bleue L'Amour Toujours 2017

Alto MPHS 2016

Darling Cellars Sir Charles Darling 2019

Fleur du Cap Laszlo 2019

Glenelly Lady May 2018
Hartenberg The Mackenzie 2017
Jordan Cobblers Hill 2018
Jordan Sophia 2017
Keet First Verse 2019
Marianne Desirade 2019
Overgaauw Tria Corda 2019
Stellenrust Timeless 2019
Stony Brook The Max 2019
Thelema Rabelais 2020
Van Biljon Cinq 2018
Vondeling Philosophie 2017
Woolworths Cobblers Hill 2018

Red Blends, with Pinotage

Beyerskloof Faith 2018

Red Blends, Shiraz/Syrah-based

ArtiSons JJ Handmade Eight Pillars 2019
Ellerman House The Ellerman 2020
Sadie Columella 2020

Red Blends, Other

Blackwater Sophie Cabernet Franc-Cinsaut 2021
De Trafford Elevation 393 2016
Fairview Homtini 2019
Leeu Passant Dry Red 2019
Leopard's Leap Pardus 2020
Marianne Floréal 2019
Van Wyk Rebecca May 2021

Chardonnay

Bartinney Hourglass 2020
Capensis Fijnbosch 2018
Creation Glenn's Chardonnay 2021
David Finlayson Shale Terraces 2021
Delaire Graff Terraced Block 2021
Draaiboek Onskuld 2021
GlenWood Grand Duc 2020
GlenWood Vigneron's Selection 2021
Hamilton Russell 2021
Jordan Nine Yards 2021
Leeu Passant Stellenbosch 2020
Longridge Organic Clos du Ciel 2018
Newton Johnson CWG Sandford 2020
Oak Valley South Ridge CY95 2020
Oak Valley Groenlandberg 2021
Oldenburg 2021

Richard Kershaw Elgin 2020
Richard Kershaw Kogelberg Sandstone CY76 2020
Richard Kershaw Lower Duivenhoks River 2020
Storm Ridge 2021
Tokara Reserve 2021
Warwick The White Lady 2021

Chenin Blanc

Alheit Cartology 2021
Alheit Fire by Night 2021
Bellingham The Bernard Series 2021
Bosman Family Optenhorst 2021
Botanica Mary Delany Collection 2021
Catherine Marshall Fermented in Clay 2021
Cederberg Five Generations 2021
David & Nadia 2021
David & Nadia Plat'bos 2021
David & Nadia Skaliekop 2021
DeMorgenzon Reserve 2021
Eenzaamheid 2020
JC Wickens Swerwer 2021
Kaapzicht Kliprug 2021
Leeuwenkuil White 2020
Metzer & Holfeld Montane 2021
Mullineux CWG Trifecta 2020
Mullineux Granite Eikelaan 2021
Old Road Wine Company Stone Trail 2020
Raats CWG The Fountain 2021
Rall Ava 2021
Sadie Mev. Kirsten 2021
Sakkie Mouton Revenge Of The Crayfish 2021
Savage Never Been Asked To Dance 2021
Scions of Sinai Granietsteen 2021
Stark-Condé Monk Stone 2021
Stellenrust Old Bushvine 2021
Wade Bales Breedekloof 2021

Hárslevelü

Lemberg 2021

Sauvignon Blanc

Anthonij Rupert Altima 2022
Bartho Eksteen CWG Vloekskoot 2021
Bartho Eksteen Houtskool 2021
Cederberg David Nieuwoudt Ghost Corner Wild Ferment 2021
Diemersdal The Journal 2021
Diemersdal Wild Horseshoe 2021
Marianne 2021
Steenberg The Black Swan 2021

Thorne & Daughters Snakes & Ladders 2021
Trizanne Sondagskloof White 2021
Vergelegen SV Schaapenberg 2020

Semillon

Anthonij Rupert Laing Groendruif 2021
Black Elephant Vintners The Dark Side Of The Vine 2019
Boekenhoutskloof 2020
De Kleine Wijn Koöp Debutant White 2021
De Kleine Wijn Koöp Road to Santiago 2021
Gabriëlskloof Magdalena 2021
Rickety Bridge The Pilgrimage 2020
The Vineyard Party I'm Your Huckleberry 2019
Thorne & Daughters Paper Kite 2021

White Blends, Cape Bordeaux

Benguela Cove Vinography Semillon-Sauvignon Blanc 2021
Delaire Graff White Reserve 2020
Morgenster White Reserve 2021
Savage White 2021
Wade Bales Constantia Sauvignon Blanc-Semillon 2021

White Blends, Other

Alheit Hemelrand Vine Garden 2021
Beaumont New Baby 2021
Bellingham Freda 2021
Creation Viognier-Roussanne 2021
David & Nadia Aristargos 2021
Keermont Terrasse 2021
Mullineux Old Vines White 2021
Rall White 2021
Sadie Skerpioen 2021
Sadie Palladius 2020
Sadie 'T Voetpad 2021
Stark-Condé The Field Blend 2021
Tempel Kattermaai Chenin Blanc-Semillon 2021
The Ahrens Family The WhiteBlack 2020
The Grapesmith Die Kluisenaar 2019
Vuurberg White 2021

Cap Classique

Anthonij Rupert L'Ormarins Blanc de Blancs 2017
Anthonij Rupert L'Ormarins Private Cuvée 2014
Colmant Absolu Zero Dosage NV
Saltare Brut Rosé NV
Silverthorn CWG Big Dog VIII 2017
Silverthorn Jewel Box 2017

Dessert Wine, Fortified

De Krans Muscat Blanc 2022

Natural Sweet

Klein Constantia Vin de Constance 2018

Noble Late Harvest

Delheim Edelspatz 2020

Miles Mossop Kika 2021

Paul Clüver Riesling 2021

Vin de Paille

Fairview La Beryl Blanc 2022

Mullineux Olerasay Straw Wine NV

Zevenwacht Vine Dried Muscat Blanc 2019

Port-style

Boplaas Cape Vintage Reserve 2020

KWV Cape Tawny NV

Brandy

Boplaas Potstill Reserve 20 Years

KWV Centenary

KWV Nexus

KWV 20 Year Old

KWV 15 Year Old Alambic

KWV 12 Year Old Barrel Select

KWV 10 Year Old Vintage

Tokara XO Potstill

Van Ryn 20 Year Old Potstill

Van Ryn 15 Year Old Potstill

Van Ryn 12 Year Old Potstill

Husk Spirit

Dalla Cia 10 Year Old Celebration Cabernet Sauvignon-Merlot