

GRAPEVINE NEWS

Whether you love white or red wine or a well-aged brandy, there are great new releases to sample in front of the fireplace this winter.

- **Lanzerac Wine Estate's** addition of a Chenin Blanc and a Syrah to its Premium range showcases innovation in the team's winemaking practices. Both the Lanzerac Syrah 2015 and the Lanzerac Chenin Blanc 2016 are produced from vineyards in the Jonkershoek Valley. The Chenin Blanc is available at R85 and the Syrah at R140 from the Lanzerac Tasting Room.
- The Eleanor Chardonnay is part of **Hartenberg Wine Estate's** range of Super Premium wines. The elegant wine pays tribute to the matriarch of the family and is a wine-collector's dream. It costs R325 at the cellar and specialist wine stores.
- The **Uitkyk 10-Year-Old Grand Reserve** potstill brandy is made from the finest selection of Chenin Blanc, Cinsaut and Clairette Blanche grapes and is an excellent rendition of a true estate brandy. The finish is smooth and complex, with lingering spice and earthy notes. The soft, well-balanced brandy has a beautiful autumn amber colour and retails for R495 at the estate and selected outlets.

TRIPLE CROWN FOR STELLENBOSCH WINE ROUTES

We did it again! After walking away with the laurels in 2014 and 2015, Stellenbosch Wine Routes returned to the podium for the third time as the winner in the international Wine Tourism Challenge's category for Best Promotional Body. The competition is organised by the authoritative journal *Drinks International* and gives recognition to innovation and excellence in wine tourism. The different categories reflect the strategy, proposition, investment and creativity required to turn a region into an attractive long-term tourist attraction. Stellenbosch Wine Routes dates back to 1971 and was the first in the country to establish such an organised network. It now includes five sub-routes and represents more than 200 wine and grape producers within the boundaries of the Stellenbosch Wine of Origin classification.



THE BIG CHEESE

Waterkloof Estate in Somerset West, known for its fantastic cuisine and wine, can now add cheese as another top attraction. The doors of the estate's new Healey's Cheesery and Deli were barely open when its Healey's Slow Matured Cheddar received top honours at the SA Dairy Championships. The seven-month matured cheese received SA Champion status in the Raw Milk Semi Hard or Hard Cheese Category. Healey's Cheddar is made by hand in limited quantities and free of preservatives, artificial colourants, flavour enhancers and anti-moulds. It is characterised by a harmonious savoury and nutty flavour that perfectly balances saltiness and acidity. Healey's originally started as a small cheesery at Lourensford Estate and became part of the Waterkloof portfolio in 2012. Healey's Cheesery and Deli is open from 10am to 5pm from Monday to Saturday and until 2pm on Sundays. You can watch the cheeses being made on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.



BUSINESS TOURISM INDABA IN THE 'BOSCH

Stellenbosch is on the brink of an unprecedented economic boom that will be set in motion on 13 June during a day-long Business Tourism Indaba. According to Annemarie Ferns, CEO of Stellenbosch 360, there is a worldwide trend away from capital cities and towards so-called second-tier cities for conventions and conferences. Wesgro (the tourism, trade and investment promotion agency for Cape Town and the Western Cape) identified Stellenbosch as a town with the potential to become a Living Conference, Events and Incentive Destination. The town has all the prerequisites, such as world-class conferencing, educational and sports training facilities, accommodation and restaurants, as well as attractions such as its wine routes, art, culture and beautiful natural surroundings. Stellenbosch Local Municipality and Stellenbosch University are already on board, and the aim is to involve each and every one of the town's communities. All potential suppliers are invited to attend the indaba in the Hofmeyr Hall in Church Street, whether they are a home-based caterer or the owner of a wine farm with facilities. The Western Cape Minister of Economic Opportunities, Alan Winde, will be the guest speaker. To register or make enquiries, call Jenna Moses at 021 883 3584 or send an email to jenna@stellenbosch360.co.za.