

Prescient

ROSÉ
REPORT 2024

WINEMAG.CO.ZA



ABOUT THE WINEMAG.CO.ZA TASTING PROGRAMME 2024

Winemag.co.za produces category reports on a regular basis with global financial services company Prescient as sponsor. Each report will be based on the outcome of a blind tasting of wines entered within a specific category.

A report includes key findings, tasting notes for the top wines, buyer's guide and scores on the 100-point quality scale for all wines entered. Upon release, producers can purchase both Top 10 and regular rating stickers – consumers are encouraged to look out for these in the retail environment.

JUDGING PROCEDURES

The judging panel was chaired by me and further consisted of two trusted colleagues, namely Ndaba Dube, director of operations at the President Hotel in Cape Town, and wine writer Malu Lambert.

We tasted blind, labels out of sight. Ratings were done according to the 100-point system, final scores awarded on the basis of discussion that involved retasting where necessary rather than relying solely on arithmetic averaging.

Christian Eedes
Editor, Winemag.co.za

KEY FINDINGS

According to the website RoseWinesWorldTracking.com, global Rosé consumption grew from 18.7 million hectolitres in 2013 to 19.9 million hectolitres in 2018. After a downward phase between 2019 and 2021, consumption stabilized in 2022 (at 19.6 million hectolitres, up 0.5% over 2021). Although it levelled out, the total consumption of still wine in general continued to shrink (down 2.6% in 2022). Rosé now accounts for 10% of global still wine consumption.

It could well be argued that Rosé is more about technique in the cellar than provenance, and yet five of the Top 10 were from Stellenbosch, while three were from Swartland, and one each from Durbanville and Robertson respectively.

Among the Top 10, there was again a lot of varietal diversity in evidence with three wines which might be viewed as Tavel inspired (Vriesenhof 2023 and 2024, Meraki Grenache 2024), two that used Bordeaux varieties (Durbanville Hills Merlot 2024, Zorgvliet Cabernet Franc 2024), one that used Cab combined with Shiraz (Quoin Rock 2024), one that used Chardonnay combined with Pinot Noir (Van Loveren Daydream 2024), one straight Pinotage (Warwick The First Lady), one straight Shiraz (Tokara 2024) and one that defies all convention consisting of Carignan and Touriga Nacional, a blend of the 2022 and 2023 vintages and made in an purposefully oxidative style (Vinevenom Shining No. 3 NV). When it comes to pink, anything goes...

Domestically, dry Rosé remains a very small category. Out of 422.3 million litres of still wine sold in 2023, it made up 5.5 million litres, the equivalent of 1.3% (total Rosé/Blanc de Noir including natural and semi-sweet sales amounted to 53.5 million litres or 12.7%). That said, the best wines in this report are still cheap. The average price of the 22 wines to rate 90-plus is R115 a bottle and of the Top 10 is R122. Best buy is Van Loveren Daydream Chardonnay Pinot Noir 2024 with a rating of 91 and selling for R69 a bottle.

TOP 10 TASTING NOTES



Quoin Rock 2024

Price: R165

Total Production: 7 500 bottles Abv 13.13%

74% Cabernet Sauvignon, 26% Shiraz. Fermented and matured for six months in older 225-litre barrels. Orange, spice and an appealing nutty oxidative note. The palate has a nice vinosity about it – good weight and breadth, tangy acidity and a gently savoury finish.



Vriesenhof 2023

Price: R125

Total Production: 17 000 bottles Abv 12.17%

60% Grenache, 25% Mourvèdre, 15% Shiraz. 50% matured in stainless-steel tank, 50% in old 4,000-litre foudre. Berries, red apple, orange, earth and spice on the nose while the palate is well balanced – good fruit expression, coated acidity and a gently savoury finish.



Warwick The First Lady Dry 2024

Price: R115

Total Production: 14 000 bottles Abv 11.5%

100% Pinotage. Strawberry, orange, earth and spice on the nose. Pure fruit, bright acidity and a lightly grippy finish. Possesses both detail and finesse.





Durbanville Hills Merlot 2024

Price: R90

Total Production: 133 333 bottles Abv 13.63%

100% Merlot. Red berries, orange and fynbos on the nose while the palate shows concentrated fruit, a creamy texture counterbalanced by bright acidity.



Meraki Grenache 2024

Price: R95

Total Production: 4 000 bottles Abv 12.88%

The nose shows flowers, red berries and orange. The palate is well balanced and flavourful – good fruit concentration and fresh acidity before a dry finish.



Van Loveren Daydream Chardonnay Pinot Noir 2024

Price: R69

Total Production: 125 000 bottles Abv 12.15%

94% Chardonnay, 6% Pinot Noir. A top note of blossom before strawberry, apricot, orange and spice on the nose. The palate has good flavour intensity, a pleasantly smooth texture, the acidity tangy, the finish savoury.





Vinevenom Shining No. 3 NV

Price: R190

Total Production: 1 300 bottles Abv 13.4%

80% Carignan, 20% Touriga Nacional. Third release, a blend of the 2022 and 2023 vintages. Made in an oxidative style with some light flor ageing and a maderised component. Complex aromatics of marmalade, stone fruit, nuts, rancio, and spice. The palate is intensely flavoured with tangy acidity and an umami-like finish. Unconventional but delicious!



Vriesenhof 2024

Price: R125

Total Production: 25 000 bottles Abv 12.25%

70% Grenache, 30% Mourvèdre. 50% matured in stainless-steel tank, 50% in old 4,000-litre foudre. A touch of reduction before strawberry orange, fynbos, a nutty character and earth on the nose. The palate has good texture and bright acidity, some pleasing tannic grip to the finish.



Zorgvliet Cabernet Franc 2024

Price: R130

Total Production: 6 600 bottles Abv 13.75%

Subtle and alluring aromatics of red berries, orange, potpourri and herbs while the palate is juicy and fresh. Well balanced with a nice tension about it.





Tokara 2024

Price: R115

Total Production: 15 000 bottles Abv 12.5%

100% Shiraz. Pretty aromatics including floral perfume, herbs and red berries. The palate is light and delicate with crisp acidity and a long, dry finish.



BUYING GUIDE: CELLAR-DOOR PRICES FOR WINES RATED 90+

Wine	Score	Price
Warwick The First Lady Dry 2024	92	R115
Vriesenhof 2023	92	R125
Quoin Rock 2024	92	R165
Van Loveren Daydream Chardonnay Pinot Noir 2024	91	R69
Durbanville Hills Merlot 2024	91	R90
Meraki Grenache 2024	91	R95
Vriesenhof 2024	91	R125
Zorgvliet Cabernet Franc 2024	91	R130
Vinevenom Shining No. 3 NV	91	R190
Tokara 2024	90	R115
Meinert Le-La Berry 2024	90	R85
De Wet Vintage Mashup Chardonnay/Pinot Noir/Grenache Noir 2024	90	R86
Haute CabriÈre Pinot Noir 2024	90	R95
Nederburg The Winemasters 2024	90	R95
Silver Myn 2024 (Zorgvliet)	90	R95
Black Oystercatcher 2024	90	R115
Le Sueur Grenache 2024	90	R115
Cape Vue 2024	90	R160

COMPLETE SCORES: A-Z

Name	Wine of Origin	Score
Aaldering Women of the World Pinotage 2024	Stellenbosch	89
Allée Bleue Shiraz 2024	Franschhoek	88
Avondrood Cape Sunset Rosé 2024	Goudini, Western Cape	89
Black Oystercatcher 2024	Western Cape	90
Cape Vue 2024	Franschhoek	90
Coucou 2024	Stellenbosch	89
De Wet Vintage Mashup Chardonnay/Pinot Noir/Grenache Noir 2024	Worcester	90
Delheim Pinotage 2024	Coastal Region	88
Du Toitskloof Pinotage 2024	Western Cape	89
Durbanville Hills Merlot 2024	Durbanville, Cape Town	91
Eikendal 2024	Stellenbosch	88
Fairview Goats do Roam 2024	Coastal Region	89
Grand Vin de Stellenbosch 2024 (Le Grand Domaine)	Stellenbosch	88
Haute Cabriere Pinot Noir 2024	Western Cape	90
Holden Manz Hiro 2024	Western Cape	88
Holden Manz Rothko 2024	Western Cape	88
La Petite Ferme Grenache Noir 2024	Franschhoek	89
Le Pommier Maraai 2024	Banghoek	88
Le Sueur Grenache 2024	Klein Karoo	90
Leipzig Pinotage 2024	Robertson	88
Little Rock 2024 (Mont Rochelle)	Coastal Region	88
Marianne 2023	Simonsberg- Paarl	87
Meinert Le-La Berry 2024	Stellenbosch	90
Meraki Grenache 2024	Coastal Region	91
Nederburg Classic 2024	Western Cape	87
Nederburg The Winemasters Grenache Carignan 2024	Western Cape	90
Peter Falke PF Blanc de Noir 2023	Stellenbosch	87
Peter Falke PF Blanc de Noir 2024	Stellenbosch	85
Quoin Rock 2024	Simonsberg- Stellenbosch	92
Saronsberg Shiraz 2024	Tulbagh	87
Silver Myn 2024 (Zorgvliet)	Stellenbosch	90
Spice Route Saffron 2023	Western Cape	88
Tamboerskloof Katharien Syrah 2024 (Kleynood)	Stellenbosch	89
Tokara 2024	Western Cape	90
Van Loveren Daydream Chardonnay Pinot Noir 2024	Robertson	91
Vinevenom Shining No. 3 NV	Swartland	91
Von Soul Pinot Noir/Pinot Gris 2024	Robertson	89
Vrede en Lust Jess 2024	Western Cape	87
Vriesenhof 2023	Stellenbosch	92
Vriesenhof 2024	Stellenbosch	91
Warwick The First Lady Dry 2024	Western Cape,	92
Windmeul Pinotage 2024	Coastal Region	88
Zandvliet Syrah 2024	Robertson	87
Zorgvliet Cabernet Franc 2024	Banghoek	91

CONTACT DETAILS

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QUOIN ROCK



ZORGVLIET



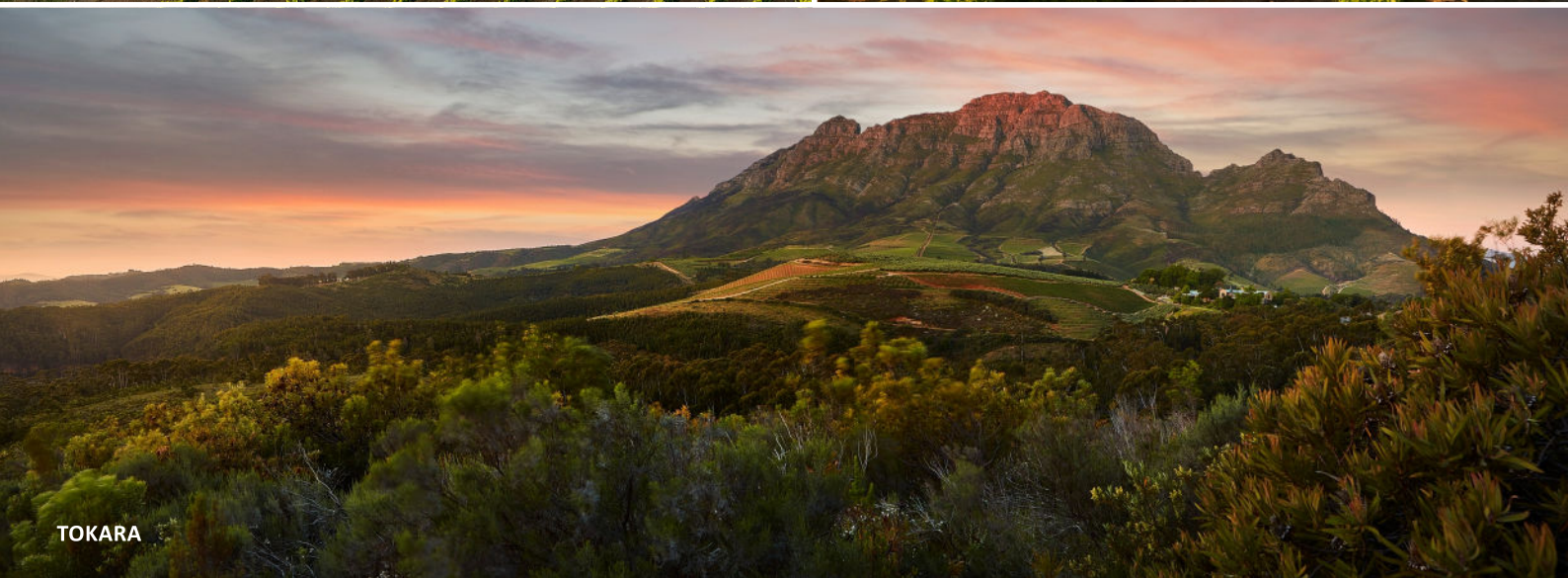
DURBANVILLE HILLS



VAN LOVEREN



WARWICK



TOKARA