

Prescient Winemag.co.za SEASONAL Reports | Judging | Hand-over | Release Dates for 2026 (with Aspiring)

2026 MONTH	WINEMAG.CO.ZA	ENTRIES OPEN	ENTRIES CLOSE	SAMPLE DELIVERY	ASPIRING DELIVERY	JUDGING DATE(S)	REPORT RELEASED
Jan-Feb	10-Year-Old Report <i>Amorim</i>	12 Jan	25 Feb	26 Feb	2 Mar	3 Mar (JvZ) CE,JP,FR	10 Mar
Feb-Apr	AUTUMN SERIES- PFS Minority: White Minority: Red Shiraz Chenin Blanc CB+ Cape White Blend <i>Winterhalter</i>	2 Feb	18 March	19 March	23 March	CE,SF,JS 25 Mar (TV) 26 Mar (TV) 27 Mar (SvdM) 30 Mar (LS) 31 Mar (LS) CE,ML,ND	15 April
Apr-May	Next Generation Awards <i>iTOO Special Risks + FermTech</i>	23 Mar	29 Apr	30 Apr	4 May	5 May (KN) CE,JS ND	19 May
Apr-Jun	WINTER SERIES - PFS Pinotage Signature Red Blend Sweet Wine & Fortifieds <i>Evolve-BGS</i>	20 Apr	3 June	4 Jun	8 June	CE,SF,JS 10 June (TV) 11 June (SvdM) 12 June	23 June
June-Aug	Wine Design Awards <i>Aspiring+</i>	25 May	31 July	3 August	6 August	11 August CE,BdK,SH,FR,C R	Vote:17-21Aug 28 August
Sept-Oct	SPRING SERIES - PFS Chardonnay Cabernet Sauvignon Cape Bordeaux Red Blend	11 Aug	2 Sept	3 Sept	7 September	CE,JP,ML 9+10 Sept (LS) 11 Sept 14+15 Sept (KN) CE,JP,FR	6 October
Sept-Oct	Old Vine Report <i>OVP +FermTech</i>	7 Sept	7 Oct	8 Oct	12 Oct	13 Oct (SvdM) CE,JP,FR	21 Oct
Nov-Dec	SUMMER SERIES - PFS Rosé Cap Classique Sauvignon Blanc: Sauv-Sem Blend	5 October	11 Nov	12 Nov	16 Nov	CE,(ND),ML 17 Nov (SvdM) 18 Nov (TV) 19 Nov (KN) 20 Nov (KN) CE,(SF),JS	2 Dec

Prescient Fund Services Reports

Empowering success and showcasing SA wine excellence through the Winemag.co.za Category Tasting Reports

...supported by Aspiring Couriers

Four Seasonal Reports: Autumn | Winter | Spring | Summer

Rules

- Wines must be certified as South African.
- Wines must adhere to the specified category and sub-classes of entry restrictions e.g.. minimum of 85% of varietal.
- Wines entered must be current release or soon to be released (minimum stock requirement: 100 x 6 bottles). Producers may enter as many different wines as they see fit.
- In the event a wine rates well and achieves Top10 status, 12 bottles may be requested to be set aside to ensure availability for the award event and other exposure opportunities.
- An entry takes the form of two sample bottles plus the entry form and a fact sheet with technical analysis. Samples collected by Aspiring Couriers (login and create a waybill [here](#)) and delivered Wine Cellar, Observatory, Cape Town on the specified date. Late submissions will not be accepted.
- An entry fee of R1495 including VAT per wine applies and you will be directed to our online shop to make payment after you have completed the form below. Please note you may enter multiple wines simultaneously.
- Wines will be tasted by a three-person panel consisting of Christian Eedes as chairman and two judges from Winemag pool plus an associate judge.

Judging Procedures

- The judging panel is chaired by Christian Eedes and further trusted colleagues: James Pietersen Wine Cellar, Jolette Steyn Wine Cellar; Malu Lambert Wine Writer & Judge; Ndaba Dube F&B Manager President Hotel; Spencer Fondaumiere Somm-on-Call; Francois Rautenbach Singita.
- Wines are tasted blind, ratings done according to the 100-point system.
- Final scores were awarded on the basis of discussion that involved retasting where necessary rather than relying solely on arithmetic averaging.

Rating System

We use the 100-point system in line with international convention. The numerical ratings are utilised to enhance and complement the thorough tasting notes.

Points defined as follows:

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 96 - 100: | Extraordinary. Profound. |
| 93 – 95: | Outstanding. |
| 90 – 92: | Excellent. |
| 88 – 89: | Very good – may represent a bargain depending on the price point. |
| 85 – 87: | Fair - pleasant enough but not very exciting. |

80 – 84: Poor - plain and simple. Look elsewhere.
Below 80: Flawed or faulty.

10-Year-Old Report brought to you by Amorim Cork

One of the most important measures of great wine is that it should be age-worthy and with this in mind, Winemag.co.za convenes the annual 10-Year-Old Wine Report. Producers are invited to enter any wine from the 2014 vintage.

iTOO Next Generation Awards

The aim of the iTOO Next Generation Awards as convened by Winemag.co.za is to identify emerging talent in the South Africa wine industry. Specifically, we propose an annual tasting of wines made by winemakers under the age of 35 with iTOO as the headline sponsor.

Aspiring Label Design Awards

The motivation for the competition is to reward outstanding design as an influence on purchases of wine

Judging criteria included:

- originality of concept
- execution
- shelf appeal and
- effectiveness as a piece of communication

For more information, visit www.winemag.co.za

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