

CALENDAR 2026

RUN TIME	COMPETITION	ENTRIES OPEN	ENTRIES CLOSE	SAMPLE DELIVERY	REPORT RELEASED
Jan-Feb	10-Year-Old Report	12 Jan	25 Feb	26 Feb	10 March
Feb-Apr	AUTUMN SERIES Minority: White Minority: Red Chenin Blanc Cape White Blend Shiraz	2 Feb	18 Mar	19 Mar	15 April
Apr-May	Next Generation Awards	23 Mar	29 Apr	30 Apr	19 May
Apr-Jun	WINTER SERIES Pinotage Signature Red Blend Sweet Wine & Fortifieds	20 Apr	3 Jun	4 Jun	23 June
June-Aug	Aspiring Top Drop Awards	8 June	31 Jul	3 Aug	4 September
Sept-Oct	SPRING SERIES Chardonnay Cabernet Sauvignon Cape Bordeaux Red Blend	11 Aug	2 Sept	3 Sept	6 October
Sept-Nov	Old Vine Report	7 Sept	7 Oct	8 Oct	21 October
Nov-Dec	SUMMER SERIES Rosé Cap Classique Sauvignon Blanc/ Sauv-Sem Blend	5 Oct	11 Nov	12 Nov	2 December

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Winemag.co.za will convene a number of competitions during 2026.

Category Reports, sponsored by Prescient Fund Services, will be released in four seasonal series: Autumn, Winter, Spring and Summer. An entry fee of R1,495 (including VAT) applies per wine. Online entry forms and payments apply.

Should a wine achieve Top 10 status, 18 bottles must be set aside at no charge for promotional purposes. These wines will be showcased at four award ceremonies hosted by Winemag.co.za in Cape Town, as well as at Prescient Fund Services client lunches in Johannesburg and London.

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.

Non-category competitions included in the 2026 schedule are as follows:

- **10-Year-Old Report:** A reassessment of wines from the 2016 vintage
- **iTOO Next Generation Awards:** Identifying South Africa's emerging winemaking talent (entrants must be under 35 years of age)
- **Aspiring Couriers Wine Design Awards:** Recognising outstanding label design and its influence on wine purchasing decisions

For further information, please contact Business Director Jacqueline Lahoud on 083 654 7721 or email jax@winemag.co.za