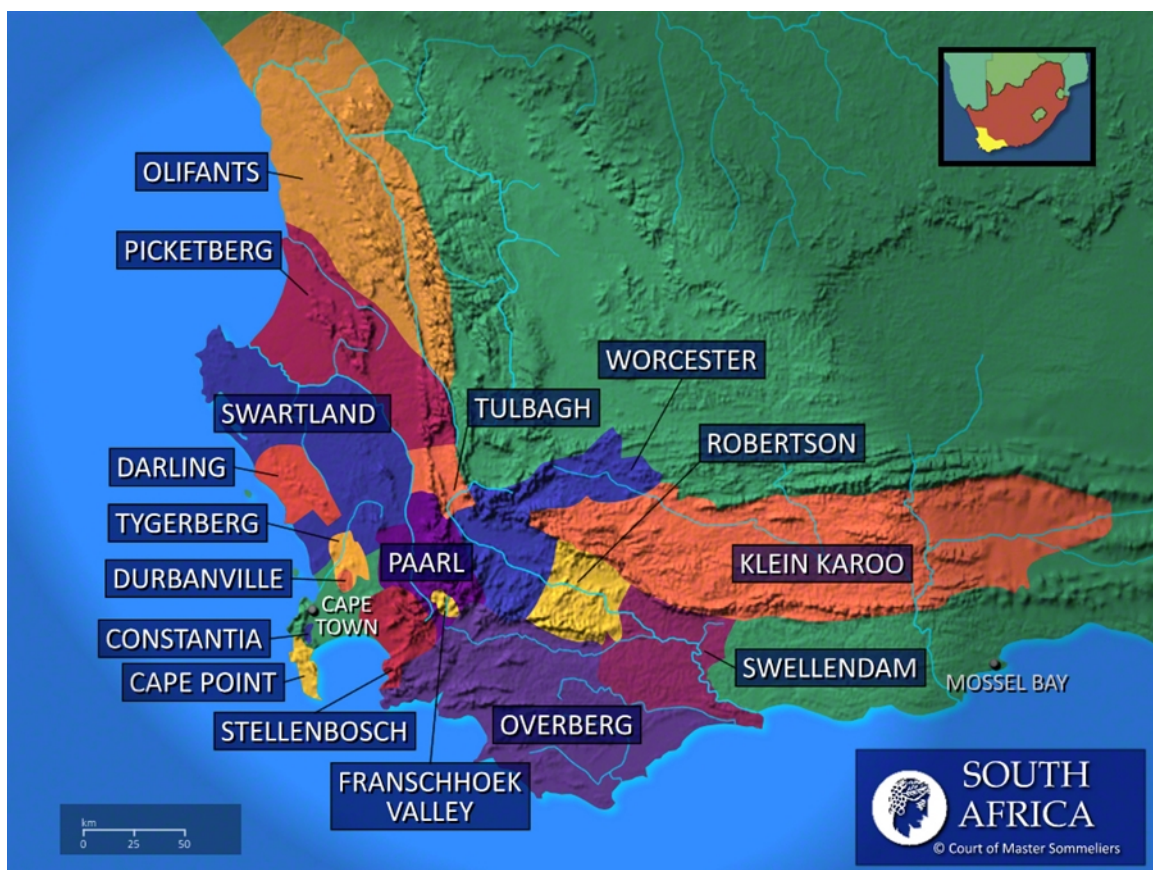


- Background and History
- South African Wine Laws, Culture and International Reputation
- Classic Winegrowing Areas
 - Robertson (Breede River Valley Region)
 - Western Cape
 - Constantia (Coastal Region)
 - Swartland (Coastal Region)
 - Paarl (Coastal Region)
 - Elgin (Cape South Coast Region)



Background and History

- 1655: Jan van Riebeeck of Dutch India Trading Company founds Cape Town, establishes first vineyard
- 1685: Governor Simon van der Stel founds Constantia estate and makes Vin de Constance, which becomes heavily sought-after in Europe

CORKBUZZ
WINE STUDIO

- Late 1800s: Phylloxera, powdery mildew, war and taxes wreak havoc on South African wine production and exports
- 1918: Ko-operatiewe Wijnbouwers Vereniging van Zuid-Afrika formed; quantity over quality encouraged
- 1940s: Apartheid instituted
- 1973: Wine of Origin system introduced
- 1994: Apartheid ends
- 1997: KWV privatized; South African Wine Industry Trust established
- 1998: Integrated Production Wine Scheme launched to encourage sustainable production practices

South African Wine Culture and Style

- Focus on quality rather than quantity is very recent
- Unique, high-potential terroir and general “sense of place” in wines are still being discovered
- Best producers are very future-focused and ahead in terms of technique due to studying in northern hemisphere
- Competition between international and “local” varieties (e.g. Pinotage) for national identity, success and prestige

South Africa Wines of Origin System

Wine of Origin certification

- Voluntary certification process
- Four types of production areas:
 - Geographical Unit
 - Region
 - District
 - Ward
- 75 approved cultivars; must pass scientific testing as well as taste test for cultivar and age
- 85% of stated grape and vintage required
- 100% of stated production area required

IPW certification

- Wines pass series of assessments and are deemed “sustainable wine of origin”
 - Indicated by a special seal
 - Over 85% of South African Wine of Origin qualifies



Robertson (Breede River Valley Region)

- Breede River Valley is the region; includes districts Robertson, Worcester and Breedekloof
- Worcester and Breedekloof are large-production districts (over 25% of country's wine)
- Robertson known for higher quality, particularly Shiraz, Chardonnay and Cabernet
- Robertson contains nine wards
- Dry district; climate kept cool by Breede River
- Limestone soil
- Cap Classique: traditional method sparkling wine

Graham Beck Brut Rosé NV - Robertson, South Africa

Western Cape

- Western Cape is the large geographical unit that contains most of its Wines of Origin and all six of the country's regions:
 - Breede River Valley, Cape South Coast, Coastal Region, Klein Karoo, Olifants River, Boberg
- Mediterranean climate with Benguela Current and Cape Doctor
- Chenin Blanc (locally known as Steen) is country's most widely planted: 20% of nation's vines
- Kama fruit comes from vineyards in Stellenbosch and Paarl, two of SA's most prominent districts
- Cabernet, Pinotage, Shiraz, Chenin Blanc

Vins d'Orrance Kama Chenin Blanc '12 – Western Cape, South Africa

Constantia (Coastal Region)

- Constantia is a ward within the Coastal Region; does not belong to a district
- Rainy, cool climate
- Granite and sandstone soils
- Long winemaking history
- Just outside Cape Town
- Table Mountain and False Bay
- Sauvignon Blanc, Riesling, Chardonnay, Cabernet, Merlot, Shiraz

Buitenverwachting Sauvignon Blanc '12 – Constantia, South Africa



Swartland (Coastal Region)

- Large district stretching from coast inland to foothills
- Climate varies based on distance from ocean
- Swartland means “the black land” named for dark colored rhino bushes in the area
- Historically known for fortified wines; now Pinotage, Shiraz, Cabernet Sauvignon plus Chardonnay, Chenin Blanc and Sauvignon Blanc
- Three Foxes label is made by Chris Mullineux; always small production, made with native yeasts, no new wood, no fining/filtering

Three Foxes Roussanne '09 – Swartland, South Africa

Paarl (Coastal Region)

- Paarl means “pearl”
- Northeast of Stellenbosch, a slightly warmer inland climate
- Groot Drakenstein, Klein Drakenstein and Franschhoek ranges in southeast; Berg River provides irrigation
- Sandstone, granite, shale soils
- Home of KVV
- Cabernet, Shiraz, Pinotage, Chenin Blanc, Chardonnay
- Pinotage: a (controversial) crossing of Cinsault x Pinot Noir

False Bay Waterkloof Pinotage '12 - Paarl, South Africa

Elgin (Cape South Coast Region)

- Cape South Coast region includes districts of Overberg, Walker Bay, Cape Agulhas, Plettenberg Bay, Swellendam and Elgin
- Elgin used to be a ward of Overberg; received its own district status in 2012
- Elgin has a cool, damp, maritime climate
- One hour east of Cape Town; 10km from Atlantic Ocean
- Situated on a plateau at 300m surrounded by Hottentots Holland mountains
- Sauvignon Blanc, Riesling, Pinot Noir, Shiraz

Botanica Pinot Noir '10 – Elgin, South Africa

