

Condé Nast Traveller

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INDIAN EDITION

SOUTH AFRICA

How to enjoy one of the world's coolest countries



PERFECT PAIRINGS

In South Africa's picturesque Cape Winelands, an hour from Cape Town, there's a vineyard for every interest, from fashion to cars. By **Sarah Khan**



WINE+ART Delaire Graff Estate

One of South Africa's most spectacular art collections is housed not in a museum, but in a wine estate. But this isn't just any winery; diamond magnate Laurence Graff opened Delaire Graff back in 2009 as the pinnacle of Winelands luxury, complete with opulent lodges and some of the best views of the Stellenbosch Valley. But the estate's crown jewels, if you will, are its cabernet sauvignons and chardonnays, as well as Graff's own private art collection on display throughout the property. Take in Vladimir Tretchikoff's magnificent *Chinese Girl* at the entrance before heading in, where you will witness works by Lionel Smit and William Kentridge, as well as exquisite sculptures of African cheetahs by Dylan Lewis. (www.delaire.co.za)

WINE+ACTION Spier

With origins dating back to 1692, Spier is one of South Africa's oldest wine farms. For a new twist on the traditional vineyard tour, you can explore its sprawling grounds in a uniquely modern way—for ZAR250 or ₹1,270 per person, you can steer a Segway through the vineyards and gardens, taking in stunning views from an unexpected vantage point. For a truly spectacular experience, book the pricier—but worth it—sunset tour. Just be sure to save the wine-tasting for after your ride. (www.spier.co.za)

WINE+SHOPPING Cavalli Estate

Cavalli Estate stands out amid its other Winelands peers thanks to its cutting-edge design. In a region dotted with lovely historic Cape Dutch manors daubed in white, this wine and stud farm's buildings are starkly contemporary, with sharp lines and behemoth glass panels showcasing views in every direction. Given Cavalli's high style quotient, a glamorous in-house boutique is no surprise. After you've sipped on the Black Beauty shiraz or the Pink Pony grenache rosé in the tasting room, splurge on Kretschmer womenswear, Ida Elsje jewellery, L'MAD scarves, Jeanne Laubser ceramics and organic Terre D'Afrique products from the meticulously curated collection at the Equus boutique. (www.cavallistud.com)

WINE+OLIVE OIL TOKARA

There's a lot more than just plump grapes growing in these fertile valleys. At TOKARA, you can take a stroll through the estate's fragrant olive groves and watch the olive presses in action. After indulging in an olive oil tasting at the Delicatessen, stock up on olive oil products and cheeses. End your day with a feast at TOKARA's restaurant—one of the country's best. Try Chef Richard Carstens' springbok with Parmesan pomme purée, asparagus, strawberries, yogurt, and black pepper-hibiscus jus, washed down with a glass of TOKARA's shiraz. (www.tokara.co.za) →



Clockwise from this picture: **The Owner's Lodge at Delaire Graff Estate; a food-and-wine pairing; Anton Smit's Stone Head; the reception area featuring works by artist Lionel Smit**







A dish at Babylonstoren's Babel restaurant.
 Left: **Strolling across Babylonstoren** Below:
The 1935 Austro-Daimler Bergmeister at The
Franschhoek Motor Museum

WINE+CARS
Franschhoek Motor Museum

While we don't normally recommend pairing wine with wheels, the Franschhoek Motor Museum is an exception. A huge car collection that is housed in four buildings, it includes the 1936 Mercedes-Benz 540K Cabriolet, the 1968 Ford Mustang and even the 1971 McLaren M6 GTR on display. Once avowed aficionados are done drooling, they can head to the Italian-inspired Terra del Capo Tasting Room for food and wine pairings. (www.fmm.co.za)

WINE+KIDS
Blaauwklippen Vineyards

At Blaauwklippen Vineyards in Stellenbosch, kids will find plenty to keep them busy while their parents sample Blaauwklippen's zinfandel and cabriolet offerings. There are pony rides, carriage

tours, a jungle gym and even friendly goats to play with. On Sundays, there's a weekly family market where you can put together a picnic out of fresh produce and enjoy it with the clan, on the grass. (www.blaauwklippen.com)

WINE+CHOCOLATE
Waterford Estate

Find heaven at Stellenbosch's Waterford Estate by indulging your sweet tooth at the property's well-known wine and chocolate tasting, which pairs

the estate's shiraz and cabernet sauvignon with an array of chocolates curated for you by the house chocolatier. Later, supplement your sugar rush by boarding a safari vehicle for a drive through the slopes of the Helderberg Mountain. (www.waterfordestate.co.za)

WINE+GOLF
Kleine Zalze

The wines at Kleine Zalze win global awards—the 2013 Family Reserve Chenin Blanc was named Best White Wine at this

year's Concours Mondial du Bruxelles—for good reason. The food is similarly well regarded, with Chef Michael Broughton's Terroir restaurant a regular fixture on the country's Top 10 lists. Once you've had your fill, work it off at the 18-hole Peter Matkovich-designed De Zalze Golf Course, nestled amid postcard-worthy scenery. (www.kleinezalze.co.za)

WINE+FOOD
Babylonstoren

At Babylonstoren, food isn't part of the experience, it's *the* experience. Bike through vegetable gardens, meander across orange orchards, help harvest honey and press olives; there are countless ways to get your hands dirty before reaping the fruits of your labour in the form of a delicious farm-to-table, colour-themed meal at the award-winning restaurant, Babel. (www.babylonstoren.com)



Can't pick just one wine farm? Sideways Tours does customised winery-hopping itineraries, based on personal interests ranging from adventure to family-friendly and beyond. (www.exploresideways.co.za)