

NOT ONLY FOOD AND WINE BUT A CHANCE TO HELP NEEDY

A host of activities awaits visitors to the Stellenbosch Wine festival, taking place at the Paul Roos Centre, from Thursday July 30 until Sunday August 2.

One of the treats to tantalise the senses will be the celebration of food at Gourmet Lane, where top restaurants in the winelands area will be serving their best dishes for festival goers to enjoy.

There will be signature dishes paired with local wines from some of the local eateries, such as 96 Winery Road, Overture, Terroir, Volkskombuis, Joostenberg Bistro and the Barouche Restaurant (Blaauwklippen).

The Cape Wine Academy will be offering tutored tastings, introduced by wine industry professionals including Anton Smal (Villiera), Francois Haasbroek (Waterford) and Pieter Badenhorst (Fleur du Cap).

There will also be a one-day South African wine course, covering the history of winemaking in South Africa as well as informative insights into viticulture.

The festival is also helping community organisations in the area, and Stellenbosch Child Welfare,

Stellenbosch Animal Welfare and the Clover Mama Afrika project will each receive funds raised at the festival from concerts and demonstrations.

Animal lovers can support the Stellenbosch Animal Welfare Dinner, which takes place on Friday July 24, at Clos Malverne Wine Estate.

The evening, hosted by Middelvlei, Stellekaya and Clos Malverne, includes a three-course dinner, a wine auction and live music at R200 each. To make a booking, call 021 865 2022.

The Clover Demonstration Kitchen is getting its pans dirty for the Clover Mama Afrika project by selling raffle tickets, and last year they raised R33 000 – which made the building of a bakery possible.

This year, the Anna Foundation – who assists disadvantaged schools and communities, and Charity Wines who raise funds for charities relating to Foetal Alcohol Syndrome, will each showcase their organisations.

The Pebbles Project, focused on enriching the lives of children with special educational needs, will run the Kiddies Care Service, available on Saturday and Sunday at the



■ The Stellenbosch Wine festival will showcase more than 500 wines.

festival. They will also be organising a toy-drive on these two days and are appealing to children to bring along a new toy to be donated to a crèche, which will help other children to learn communication skills, hand-eye coordination, numeric skills and assist in their creative development.

The festival will be implementing a recycling project again this year with the assistance of Let's Talk Rubbish, to ensure that waste

from the festival will be disposed of in a responsible manner.

Not only will recycling bins be available around every corner, but festival goers can expect to see biodegradable plates and cutlery at the gourmet lane – and all waste will be sorted in three categories; dry waste, wet waste and inorganic, unrecyclable waste.

To avoid drinking and driving, festival goers can make use of the shuttle service available from Paarl, Franschhoek, Somerset

West, the V&A Waterfront, Canal Walk and Tygervalley Shopping Centre for the duration of the festival.

For more information, contact Stellenbosch Wine Routes at 021 886 4310. Tickets for the Stellenbosch Wine Festival are available from Computicket, ranging from R100 to R300 each. For a complete Wine Week Programme and information on the Stellenbosch Wine Festival contact 021 886 4310 or visit www.wineroute.co.za

Win a meal and a stayover

Bolander is giving away a dining voucher for two at Cuveé Restaurant at Simonsig as well as a one night stay for two at Eikelower Guesthouse with breakfast included, and a cocktail/drink/coffee at Julian's in Stellenbosch.

Simply email the answer to the question: where is Cuveé restaurant, with your name to: medcom@mweb.co.za with the subject line "Bolander" by noon on Friday July 24. The winner will be contacted directly by the organiser and no correspondence can be entered into with Bolander.

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MONTE CHRISTO - SOUND FINANCIAL ADVICE, TO THE MANOR BORNE

Skottie Smit, Ebeth van Niekerk, Willem Smit, Fred Grunewald.

A balanced portfolio, with well-spread asset allocation and diverse management styles, is key. Monte Christo client, Koos Louw (former legal head of KWV and Mayor of Paarl), applauds the company for their pioneering approach towards developing 'Personal Portfolios', before anyone else. "With long-term investments, you must spread both capital and risk. I sleep well, knowing my assets are taken care of through reputable firms and a well-crafted, regularly updated financial plan" says Koos.

After a sociable breakfast, the guests departed, armed with the latest financial facts and figures and the knowledge that their portfolios were safe in the capable hands of Monte Christo!

THE GETHYLLIS AFRA CONNECTION

The Monte Christo logo and website name (www.afrafin.co.za), represents a remarkable plant species endemic to the sandy, winter-rainfall areas of the South Western Cape - the Kukumakranka (Gethyllis Afra) This small, hardy plant is uniquely adapted to local climatic conditions, through its individualistic growth cycle. In winter, only a few strappy, spiralled leaves appear, followed in summer, by a single, white flower, which later forms a fragrant, delicious, orange-red fruit. A highly-evolved strategy of distributing its assets across the seasons has ensured the survival of Gethyllis Afra, which continues to thrive and bear fruit, in the same manner as its proudly indigenous, well-grounded financial counterpart - Monte Christo - produces results for its investors, year after year.

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