



MAGNIFICENT: The view across False Bay from Waterkloof. Pictures: supplied

Enjoy a fine time in the winelands this winter

WINTER needn't be a time to hibernate in the Western Cape. With so many beautiful destinations to choose from, it's time to diarise an event that's sure to warm your cockles during the busy winter the Western Cape is currently experiencing.

The ninth annual Stellenbosch Wine Festival is taking place a month earlier this year, from July 1 to 5, and last year it attracted more than 13 500 visitors to the town.

With more than 140 wine farms in and around the area, Stellenbosch has a lot to offer, including "off the pitch"

activities in the winelands for soccer fans. Farms will offer a variety of family friendly activities and attractions, including interactive wine-making, restaurant and accommodation offerings, dinners, tastings and more.

For instance, Idiom Wines invites visitors to participate in a supporters' football competition. The five-a-side competition takes place in the middle of the estate's vineyards. Idiom is also hosting a supporters' boules competition on its new courts adjoining the soccer field, as well as wine tastings in its hillside bomas.

Estates such as Delheim, Jordan Wine Estate and Webersburg offer big-screen soccer. Villiera offers game drives and Méthode Cap Classique tasting; Waterkloof offers wine-tasting on horseback; L'Avenir Estate offers numerous cultural activities, including The Matthew Kruger Band; and Simonsig offers live music throughout the duration of the festival.

Stretching beyond 90 minutes of action on the soccer field, this year's decentralised Stellenbosch Wine Festival will showcase its gems through an extensive network of shuttles between

the participating farms.

It is as simple as blowing a whistle... Park your car at any of the allocated park-and-ride areas, or visit the information centre at Doornbosch in Stellenbosch to purchase your festival pass and catch a shuttle to the wine farms of your choice.

Soccer enthusiasts will certainly not be left out in the cold as transport to and from this meandering wine extravaganza has been arranged from Cape Town. Visitors will also be able to experience the history, culture and hospitality of Stellenbosch and its wine routes

in the comfort of their own vehicle and transport.

Tickets

Tickets for the Stellenbosch Wine Festival are available at R150 a day pass and R500 for a golden pass, which is valid for the entire duration of the festival. Children under the age of 18 enter free.

For more information on the Stellenbosch Wine Festival, sponsored by American Express® Cards, call 021 886 4310 or visit www.wineroute.co.za



VERDANT: L'Avenir vineyards.



CHEERS! Wine-tasting at Simonsig.



Stellenbosch wine festival



ALLUVIA
THE WORLD OF
JORDAN
STELLENBOSCH



PROTEA HOTEL
DORPSHUIS & SPA



BLAAUWKLIPPEN



1



2



3



4

The Weekend Argus, in conjunction with the Stellenbosch Wine Festival, is giving you the chance to shake off the winter blues and experience the laidback tranquility of the world-renowned Stellenbosch American Express® Wine Routes with these awesome prizes up for grabs.

4 lucky readers will win one of the following:

1st PRIZE

One lucky couple can win a romantic two-night stay at the charming **Alluvia Guest House**, nestled in the picturesque Barboek Valley just outside Stellenbosch. The prize includes breakfast and a private wine tasting and is valid from July till October 2010.

Celebrated for its homely ambience and breathtaking scenery, **Alluvia Wine Estate** offers an exclusive vineyard lifestyle experience with fine wines, luxurious country-style accommodation and a wide range of outdoor activities including golf, hiking, picnics and scenic flights. For more information visit www.alluvia.co.za or send an email to info@alluvia.co.za

2nd PRIZE

One lucky couple can win a relaxing weekend breakaway at the **Protea Hotel Dorpshuis & Spa** where a fusion of Victorian and modern elegance meets landscaped gardens, a heated pool, sauna and treatment facility in the heart of Stellenbosch. This two-night experience includes breakfast and a hot stone massage. Prize subject to availability.

The **Protea Hotel Dorpshuis & Spa** offers guests a tranquil escape in the heart of this quaint town, surrounded by stylish shops, restaurant, galleries and museums, with the **Stellenbosch Wine Routes** at your doorstep. For more information visit www.proteahotels.com/dorpshuis or call: 021 883 9881

3rd PRIZE

Jordan Estate with celebrated chef George Jardine is spoiling one lucky couple to a dining experience at the popular restaurant on the estate situated just outside Stellenbosch. This delicious lunch for two, includes a bottle of Jordan Wine and is valid from August to October 2010.

Make sure you visit **Jordan Wine Estate** during the **Stellenbosch Wine Festival** for guided cellar tours and informal barrel tastings, a vertical tasting of older Jordan wines and big screen viewing of the World Cup Soccer quarter finals. For more on the estate visit www.jordanwines.com or call: 021 881 3441

4th PRIZE

One reader can win a fabulous foursome of the finest cellar gems from **Blaauwklippen Wine Estate**, which includes a bottle of their **Blaauwklippen Vineyard Selection White Zinfandel 2008**, South Africa's first and only white Zinfandel produced from red grapes. This Zinfandel Blanc de Noir, with its rich old gold colour, allures with gorgeous flavours of baked apples and pear drops which linger graciously with a touch of candied fruit in the mouth.

Situated on the foot of the idyllic Stellenbosch Mountains, **Blaauwklippen** exudes a sense of long-standing tradition captured in an award-winning wine range. For more information visit www.blaauwklippen.com or call: 021 880 0133

Weekend Argus

To enter

SMS the word **Stellenbosch**, followed by your name to **34445**. Lines close at midnight on Sunday 27 June.

RULES: - Employees of Independent Newspapers, the sponsors & their agents, or any company associated with the competition & their immediate families are not eligible to enter. - Prizes are not transferable or redeemable for cash. - The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. - Receipt of entries will not be acknowledged. - The winner accepts that entry in the competition does not constitute a contract or any form of legal commitment between the entrant and the participating newspaper. - The participating newspaper shall not assume liability for any ambiguity, error, oversight or omission whether negligent or otherwise which may be committed by any employer of the participating newspaper, their agent or associate in respect of this competition. - Each sms costs R2. - The booking closes with the hand receipt. - Prize is subject to availability of stock. - The winner must provide a copy of the newspaper's daily newspaper. - Each sms costs R2.