

## Doolhof Wine Estate reveals The Dark Lady and other secrets

Doolhof Wine Estate, located near Wellington, reveals three new wines at a function at the Vineyard Hotel today, 6 May 2009.

The Doolhof wine brand now comprises four distinct ranges namely, the Dark Lady, Renaissance, Signatures and the Cape Series.

The Dark Lady of the Labyrinth, fittingly named after *Doolhof* or labyrinth, is produced entirely from high quality Pinotage grapes. This wine will seduce palates with its intense chocolate/mocha aromas, hints of spice, almonds, black cherries and subtle, soft tannins. The eye-catching presentation symbolises the wine's allure.

The 2006 vintage of the estate's Renaissance wine has received four stars in the 2009 John Platter Guide. This is a classic blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot, with mulberry and perfumed cedar aromas and cassis on the palate, followed by a lingering aftertaste.

The Signatures range has been extended with a new addition. Today's release of the 2007 Malbec, the first estate Malbec from Wellington, introduces a complex, exciting wine with hints of mint and prune aromas. The grapes were hand picked and half the wine was matured in new French oak barrels for 12 months,

imparting to it its rich, purple colour and firm, well integrated tannins. To set the seal on a brand that offers a wine to suit every palate and purse, Doolhof's Cape Series, named after several unique animals and birds of Southern Africa, is being presented.

This Series comprises the Cape Loerie, a delightful, easy-sipping Sauvignon Blanc; the Cape Robin Rosé a Merlot/Pinotage rosé with abundant raspberry flavours and hints of Turkish Delight; the Cape Boar, a lightly oaked blend in the Bordeaux style and the Cape Roan, a lightly oaked, Shiraz-dominated blend, in the style of the Rhône Valley.

The farm was aptly named by the settlers of the 18<sup>th</sup> century who saw the many hills and vales on which it is situated and called it Doolhof or labyrinth.

Dennis Kerrison, the owner of Doolhof Wine Estate, says that "today, this labyrinthine topography harmonises with the location of our vineyards, making good use of the many micro-climates and terroirs which are ultimately expressed in the Doolhof Estate wines."

Land was granted in 1712 and grapes were first planted in 1728. Modern Doolhof's vines were planted in 1995 and the present owners are continuing the 300 year tradition.



The Doolhof Team



Andrew Leaver and Michael Olivier



Gerald Elliott and Sue Anderson



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