

# Wine in South Africa

## *Introduction*

As one of the leaders in the wine-making industries of the world, South Africa is known for its diverse, high quality wines. SA is ranked 8th in the world as one of the biggest producers of wine in the world, as of 2022.

## *Wine categories & properties & prices*

There are many different types of wines in the world, the most popular being red wine, white wine, rose wine, orange wine, sparkling wine and many more. Each wine has a distinct flavour that comes from its unique production process. The type of grape used, inclusion of grape skins and time taken for fermentation all affect the taste and quality of wine.

Red wine and white wines are most common and gain their name from the coloured flesh of the grapes used to make them. The main property that casual wine drinkers pick their drink of choice is sweetness. Sweetness ranges from “bone dry” to “sweet”. The length of fermentation and sugar content affects the sweetness of the wine. Sweet wines have added sugar and have a shorter fermentation time in comparison to dry wines, which are stripped of their natural sugars.

Many factors affect a wine’s value and hence, its price. The land on which the grapes were grown, different wine making techniques, the length of fermentation, packaging and distribution all affect the price. Most high quality wines come from prestigious vineyards and are made by skilled winemakers.

## *Wineries in SA*

Almost 2960 wineries can be found in South Africa. Our country is known for its large wine estates. The Cape Winelands are considered the star collection of all our wine estates. Only the best known of our wine estates make up the Cape Winelands. These include Stellenbosch, Paarl, Franschhoek, Wellington, Constantia, Robertson and Durbanville.

These estates are popular among tourists and wine connoisseurs. Accommodation can easily be found in the Cape Winelands, along with many other activities for adventure-lovers.

## *References*

1. [Countries ranked in wine production](#)
2. [Wine](#)
3. [Wineries in South Africa](#)
4. [Sweet vs. dry wine](#)
5. [Price of wines](#)