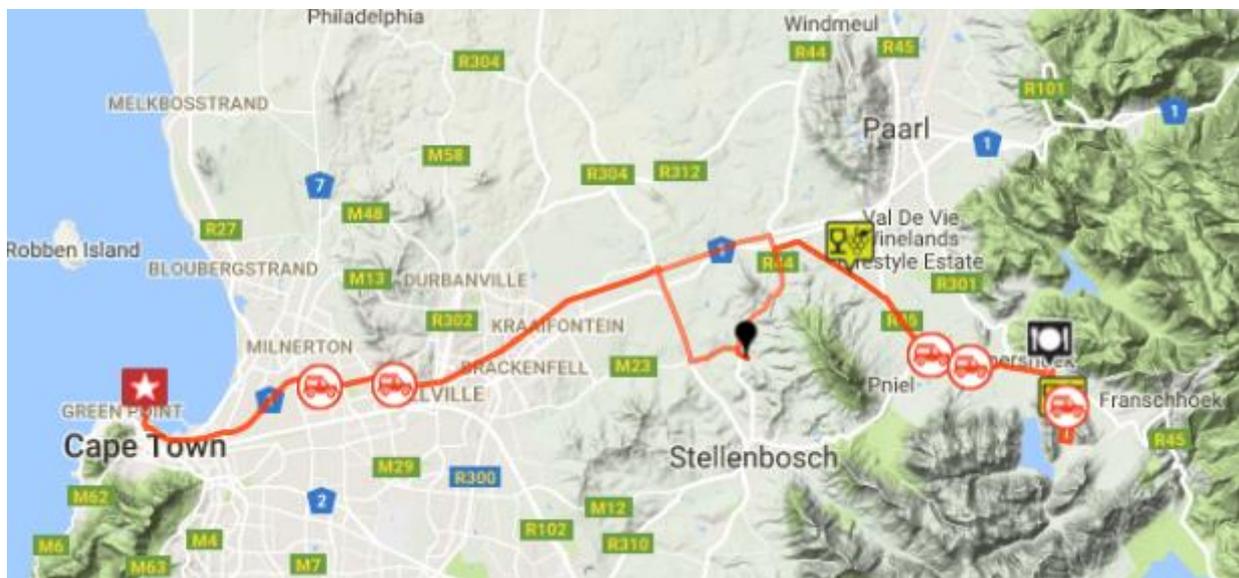


Historical Wine Tastings in the Heart of the Winelands

Summary

A day of contrasts as we visit both old and new wine estates in and around the Franschhoek valley, all the while learning about the stories that give each vineyard their unique presence in the heart of the winelands.



Activities

- Wine Tasting - Muratie
 - Wine Tasting - Glenwood Wines
 - Lunch - Pierneef a La Motte Restaurant
 - Wine Tasting – Babylonstoren
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Description

We will begin the day exploring Muratie, tucked into the exquisite Knorhoek Valley north of Stellenbosch, Muratie Wine Estate is run under the stewardship of Rijk Melck and his family. The farm itself dates back to 1685 when it was granted by Governor Simon van der Stel who was Governor of the Cape of Good Hope at the time. This makes Muratie one of the oldest estates in South Africa.

We will then visit Glenwood Wines, developed from scratch over the last 30 years where we will enjoy a Cellar Tour.

Lunch will be enjoyed at Pierneef à La Motte. Pierneef's creativity in portraying the beauty of the South African landscape is echoed in the restaurant's offering of traditional cuisine with a modern interpretation.

We will end the day at Babylonstoren, one of the oldest Cape Dutch tradition wine farms. Here we will explore the expansive gardens to learn about the different fruit and veg grown before ending the day with a final wine tasting.

Wine Tasting - Muratie



The Cape Winelands are peppered with beautiful vineyards, many of which date back to the historic seventeenth century. Muratie Wine Estate, situated in the stunning Knorhoek Valley near Stellenbosch, was established in 1685, making it one of South Africa's oldest. A visit to the historic cobweb-strewn cellars and tasting rooms gives a feel of the character from centuries ago, where little has changed and the ancient cellar walls are still hung with original artworks. This family-owned estate is rightly proud of its heritage, and consistently produces superb wines in magical surroundings.

Wine Tasting - Glenwood Wines



Glenwood Wines is a relative newcomer to the more established vineyards in the Cape Winelands, having been started from scratch about three decades ago. Here, in this area of outstanding local beauty, with the historic Franschhoek Valley nearby, enjoy a relaxed tasting session and take in the splendid views across the valleys and fynbos-rich mountain slopes. You'll see why Glenwood is now rated as one of South Africa's top producers, with a range of award-winning wines exported worldwide.

Lunch - Pierneef a La Motte Restaurant



Blending Cape Dutch with French Huguenot fare, Pierneef a La Motte attracts diners with home-style winelands cuisine. Traditional breads, dried fruits and cured meats are part of the dining experience here, flavoured by a mouth-watering collection of spices. The cellar is packed with world-class wine, ensuring rare vintages and current releases are available to enjoy along with your meal. Seating options include the conservatory, courtyard and interior. Try the wine sorbets and wine cocktails.

Wine Tasting – Babylonstoren



Babylonstoren lies deep within the Drakenstein Valley surrounded by mountains, in the exquisite heart of the Cape Winelands. This historic farm dates back to the 17th century, and its Cape Dutch origins are very much evident in the beautifully preserved farm buildings and surrounding grounds. Careful production techniques and a philosophy of keeping as close to nature as possible continue to yield wines of outstanding balance and quality – expect a memorable tasting session in Babylonstoren's Wine Shed, with seven delectable wines on offer.
