



## **KLEINE ZALZE CABERNET SAUVIGNON SCORES 5-STAR PLATTER RATING FOR THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR**

*South Africa, Stellenbosch, November 2017;* **HAVING** received five stars in two consecutive editions of the auspicious Platter's South African Wine Guide, the award-winning Stellenbosch producer was hailed for its Vineyard Selection Cabernet Sauvignon 2015 on Friday 3rd of November in what is without doubt a remarkable repeat performance.

As with the preceding years and perhaps unsurprisingly to wine cognoscenti familiar with Kleine Zalze, the wine crowned with five-star glory was a Cabernet Sauvignon - a variety that has consistently shown itself to be eminently suited to the Kleine Zalze terroir.

The Kleine Zalze Vineyard Selection Cabernet Sauvignon 2015 was singled out for the maximum achievement and status strictly reserved by the leading wine annual for true South African classics.

It follows Platter five-star ratings for the Vineyard Selection Cabernet Sauvignon 2012 in 2016 and the Family Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 2012 in 2017.

*“Cabernet Sauvignon has always been very important to us,” says Kleine Zalze owner and managing director Kobus Basson. “The consistent awards over the past 20 years demonstrate just how well-suited Stellenbosch and specifically Kleine Zalze are for the cultivation of Cabernet Sauvignon.”*



In addition to this award the following Kleine Zalze wines received 4½ stars further cementing the high quality of the estate’s range: Vineyard Selection Chardonnay 2016, Family Reserve Sauvignon Blanc 2016, Family Reserve Chenin Blanc 2016, Family Reserve Shiraz 2013 and Family Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 2013.

The hat-trick is also of particular satisfaction to cellar master Alistair Rimmer and winemaker RJ Botha whose recent vine re-planting proposals were a key driver of the farm’s greater investment in the variety, which was stepped up in 2015.

Following an extensive analysis of vineyard blocks using state-of-the-art solar radiation and soil analysis to maximise the potential of the terroir, the viticulture team replanted 20 hectares of the estate's prime vineyard sites. Specific clones of mostly Cabernet Sauvignon were selected for replanting, with a view to bolstering the flagship Family Reserve and premium Vineyard Selection offering.

This year alone, the Prescient Cabernet Sauvignon Report rated the Kleine Zalze Family Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 2013 and included it in the top 15 wines. Kleine Zalze was also the only South African estate to be included in the top 10 of the prestigious Decanter Top 35 New World Cabernet Sauvignons under £40 with its Family Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 2009, while the same publication selected the Kleine Zalze Family Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 2012 as one of its Top 12 Stellenbosch Cabernets.

The Kleine Zalze Vineyard Selection Cabernet Sauvignon 2015, a product of an exceptional vintage, is an outstanding representative of Kleine Zalze wines, which are marked by a classical structure and complexity matched by a vibrant flavour intensity. It shows typical Stellenbosch density on both the bouquet and the palate. Aromas of black cherry, black plum and cigar-box on the bouquet lead to a rich palate of currant and cassis backed up by hints of cedar and oak with fine tannins and a lingering finish.

The latest Platter five-star winner is a fantastic companion to most meat dishes and will also reward careful cellaring for at least ten years. The wine offers outstanding value and sells for just R118 from the Cellar Door.

Kleine Zalze is situated on Strand Road (R44), Stellenbosch, South Africa. The estate offers a variety of attractions, including Kleine Zalze's award-winning wines; the critically acclaimed Terroir gourmet restaurant of Chef Michael Broughton; breath-taking hiking and cycling routes; the world-renowned De Zalze golf course; and, a luxurious four-star Cape Dutch style De Zalze lodge.

For more information contact Anthony van Schalkwyk, Marketing Manager at Kleine Zalze via e-mail [AvanSchalkwyk@kleinezalze.co.za](mailto:AvanSchalkwyk@kleinezalze.co.za) or visit [www.kleinezalze.co.za](http://www.kleinezalze.co.za). The estate is also on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/kleinezalzeofficial>) and Twitter @kleine\_zalze

For press assistance contact Lise Manley of Manley Communications on 0861 MANLEY (626 539) or email [lise@publicity.co.za](mailto:lise@publicity.co.za) or Kobus Basson at Kleine Zalze on 021 880 0717 or email to [kbasson@kleinezalze.co.za](mailto:kbasson@kleinezalze.co.za)

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