

14 Value Reds from South Africa

New reviews of Cabernets, Syrahs and more, all priced at \$25 or less



The Rustenberg winery, in the Stellenbosch region of South Africa.

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Tasting Highlights bring the best wines from our editors' most recent tastings to WineSpectator.com members.

Following our look at newly released South African white wine values, here are 14 delicious South African reds, all priced at \$25 or less. This batch is dominated by Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah bottlings.

At Ernie Els Wines, winemaker Louis Strydom has expanded the portfolio with a rock-solid Cabernet as well as a fun blend of Shiraz, Cabernet Sauvignon, Mourvèdre, Grenache and Viognier. Rustenberg's Brampton line continues to provide consistently very good value, along with Charles Back's cheeky-labeled but always tasty Goats do Roam wines. The De Morgenzon Syrah is a buy-by-the-case bottling that offers a lot of bang for its \$15 price tag.

There's more here from the new L'Ormarins Protea line as well as from Six Hats, two labels that are making their debuts here in the United States.

DE MORGENZON Syrah Western Cape DMZ 2009 Score: 88 / \$15

Mouthfilling, with a juicy core of blackberry, currant and dark tobacco notes. Toasty, but nicely integrated on the finish. Solid. Drink now. 600 cases imported. —*J.M.*

MULDERBOSCH Faithful Hound Stellenbosch 2007 Score: 88 / \$22 This shows grilled herb and tobacco notes up front, followed by a medium-weight core of red currant, licorice and damson plum fruit. The tangy finish lets herb and mineral notes hang. Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec, Petit Verdot, Merlot and Cabernet Franc. Drink now. 2,500 cases imported. —*J.M.*