



FOUNDED 1701

*Louiessenhof*

*Wines Produced  
In Harmony With Nature*



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*Louiesenhof*

## BACKGROUND

Louiesenhof was part of the Koopmanskloof Estate. The Koopmanskloof farm deed was given out in 1701 and the old Cape Dutch homestead was built in 1801.

Koopmanskloof was bought by my great granddad in 1896 where he farmed with wheat, cattle and grapes. My father started farming in 1948 and increased the farm acreage to 640 hectares under vines, making it the biggest wine producing estate in South Africa.

In an inventory of around 1860 it appeared that Koopmanskloof also distilled brandy - making it one of the first Cape distilleries. In 1993 I bought part of the Estate from my dad.

We have recently been very fortunate in obtaining a beautiful, historic distilling kettle as a gift. This kettle was built in Germany in 1930. It is 131 liter versus the legal 680 liter minimum size and was imported from Stuttgart in 1933. We have been granted a special distilling licence proclaiming this kettle as a working museum piece and have also built our own brandy distilling museum at Louiesenhof.





## OUR PHILOSOPHY

Wines produced in harmony with nature.

This natural and ecology friendly way of wine-making started in Europe. Today there is a world-wide awareness of the sensitivity of nature and ecology. In developing countries the emphasis is often solely on development and little consideration is given to nature.

Says Stefan Smit, cellar master at LOUIESENHOF, "During the four years I studied Viti - and Viniculture in Weinsberg in Germany, I became intensely aware of the sensitivity of the ecology. Consequently I decided to produce wines in consideration with nature, "with as little tampering with nature as possible."

LOUIESENHOF has a wide range of soils with different slopes, gradients and a variety of micro climates.

After purchasing Louiesenhof I immediately started with soil analysis'. With this knowledge we can now replant the ideal cultivars to the correct terroir.





## PRACTICAL SIDE

- Soil analysis - all soils are charted by soil analysts.
- This involves the evaluation of the "total" soil - depth, texture, subsoil, drainage capacity, fertility, etc.
- On the basis of these analyses decisions are taken with the assistance of viticultural experts as to:
  - Cultivar - always the best suited cultivar possible on a given stand to produce the highest quality wine.
  - Rootstock - influences quality, crop size, vitality, disease resistance and pH tolerance.
  - Planting direction - influences natural airflow and is important in case of prevailing winds.

## CULTIVATION METHODS

With all the basic development correct, the emphasis shifts to everyday vineyard cultivation.

- Loosening of soils - breaks up dense underground banks which makes soils more penetrable by water and roots.
- Liming - corrects pH of soil, influences pH of wine and promotes soil microbe activity.
- Ground cover - a ground cover is sown during the winter which prevents erosion and suppresses weed growth. The following growth season the ground cover forms a layer on the soil which again suppresses weed growth and helps humus build-up in the soil, conserving rainwater.
- Cultivation - the minimum cultivation is applied.
- Fertilisation - minimum fertilisation is applied.
- Pest management - integrated pest management is applied, using agents that do not affect a wide spectrum of pests and preferably bee-friendly agents.
- Crop: Optimum crop timing is very important.

## CELLAR ACTIVITIES

- Only tank presses are used for vinification.
- Fermentation takes place at controlled temperatures with genetically stable yeasts.
- Red wines are produced the traditional way.
- The fermentation completed, wines are treated very gently and cleared with natural agents.





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# Louisenhof



A private lookout deck where guests can enjoy sundowners while the setting sun turns Simonsberg mountains into a painting of subtle colours.

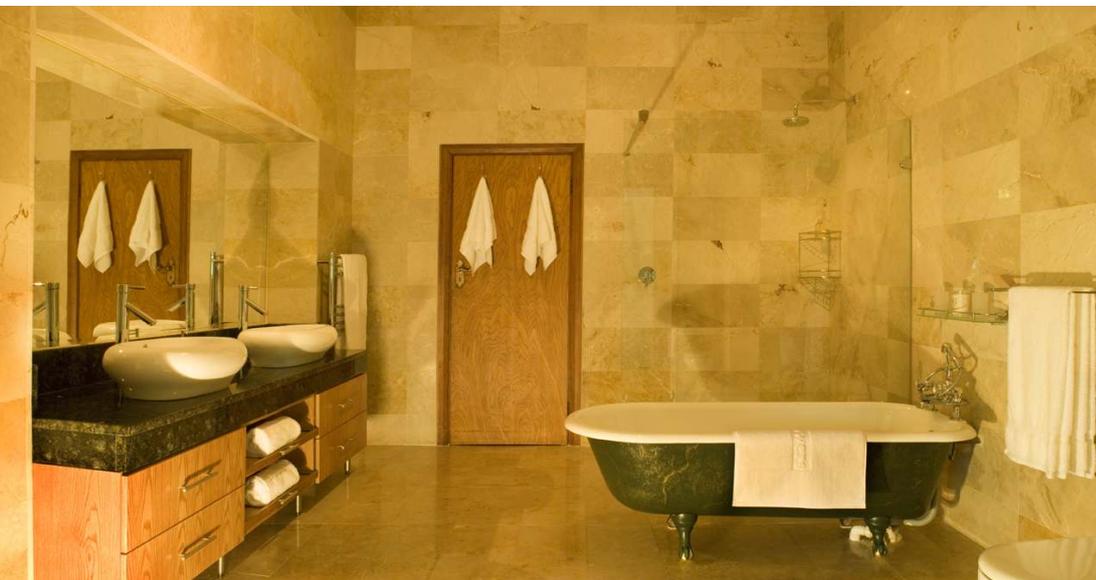
## LUXURY ACCOMMODATION





## LUXURIOUS AND TRANQUIL

Set in the heart of Stellenbosch Winelands, tranquil environment to de-stress & rejuvenate body, mind & soul. A luxury suite that sleeps 4, with internet connection. We offer pre / post-operation care, reflexology & massage.



## GRACEFUL AND COMFORT

Nestled among vineyards & soft lush lawns, the ideal tanning spot in nature. A luxury bathroom with walk-in Jacuzzi set in balau deck is the ideal place to sooth & soak away tension and relax.





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*Louiesenhof*

**LOUIESENHOF WINES**

**Liquid Assets**

Taste the difference while savouring the knowledge  
that it has been produced in harmony with nature!

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On the R304 towards the N1,  
3 km from Stellenbosch,  
you will find Louiesenhof.  
Watch out for the flags waving  
you a welcome in the wind.

