



MAN Family Wines

MAN Family Wines is a dynamic young winery producing several ranges of good-value modern-styled varietal wines. MAN is the brainchild of José Conde of Stark-Condé and brothers Tyrrel and Philip Myburgh of Joostenberg Wines. MAN was named after the three partners' wives: Marie, Anette and Nicky. Starting in 2001 with 300 cases of Pinotage made in a tractor shed, today MAN produces over 170 000 cases and exports to more than 25 countries.

Although the MAN wine business has long-since outgrown the tractor shed, the winery still derives a lot of its passion from fine wine making. Partners José and Tyrrel are both winemakers with their own separate family boutique wineries and since the beginning they have always tried to borrow some of the tricks and techniques of small-scale wine making to raise the quality of the MAN wines, albeit on a larger scale.

Another unique feature for a winery this size is that it is focused on producing wines from one small region, the Agter-Paarl area. Located between Paarl Mountain and the Cape Town Northern suburbs and within the greater Paarl winemaking Region, this area is characterized by rolling hills and large pockets of deep shale soils. The area has a Mediterranean climate with cold, wet winters and long, dry summers. With annual rainfall of around 450mm, the area is fairly dry, but more than 85% of the vineyards are planted without irrigation. Because of this lack of rainfall, the growers prefer the traditional bush-vines which generally require a lot less water.

Summer temperatures average between 15-20 degrees at night to 25-35 degrees in the daytime. Daily seasonal winds in the summer months help to prevent overheating and diseases in the vineyards and allow the vineyards to be farmed sustainably.

MAN has a partnership with a group of growers in this region, farming over 2000 hectares of low-yielding vineyards, including over 200 hectares of chenin blanc vineyards older than 25-years — arguably the largest collection of old-vine chenin blanc in the country. Naturally chenin blanc is a strong focus for the winery, making up about 25% of the production. Chenin blanc is said to have an affinity for the deep shale soils in this area producing an intense, fruity style with a strong minerality and good acidity. Because of the higher phenolic content of the dry-farmed, bush-vine chenin blanc, the winery only uses the free-run juice which helps to give the freshest style of wine.

On the red wine side, the area is said to be particularly good for shiraz — the wines tend to be elegant and “grapey” without being overly dominated by spice — and for pinotage. However, unusual for this area, the winery's production is dominated by cabernet sauvignon which makes up more than 40% of the total production. Probably this is partly due to the influence of the partner José Conde who is well known as a top cabernet producer.





The men behind M·A·N

M

Jose Condé
Director and Main **MAN**
Married to Marie

José (partner) spent 10 years in New York City and five in Tokyo only to realise that what he really wanted was to live in a small town at the tip of Africa. He is the owner/winemaker of the award-winning Stark-Condé Wines in Stellenbosch, his Cabernet Sauvignons have twice been chosen as Platter five-star wines and each has been rated 90 points or more by Wine Spectator magazine. (www.stark-conde.co.za)

A

Tyrrel Myburgh
Director and Cellar Master
Married to Anette

Tyrrel (winemaker, partner) is the youngest member of the team and therefore has to do most of the work. His philosophy degree comes in very handy when cleaning out the tanks. He is a fifth-generation farmer in Paarl and together with his brother Philip (who is married to Nicky) is the owner/winemaker of the award-winning Joostenberg Wines (www.joostenberg.co.za)

N

Philip Myburgh
Older Brother and Founding Partner
Married to Nicky

Philip is Tyrrel's older brother and the (self-described) better-looking and smarter sibling. Less involved in the daily running of M·A·N Family Wines, Philip is currently pursuing his career as an Advocate at the Cape High Court. Philip's historic family home (built in 1756) provides the venue for many a raucous **MAN** party.

