



RIDGEBACK

Newsletter

The winter of 2011 is turning out to be the driest and warmest we've had in a while. This is probably the biggest reason why Ridgeback doesn't seem to have gone into its usual state of hibernation. Yes, things here at Ridgeback have been rather busy...

On the 16th of July it seemed as though our parking area was being invaded by sassy little cars as the 23 members of the MG Car Club of Cape Town arrived at the tasting room. The club was established in 1948 and its aim for its members to simply enjoy their cars. A tasting of our fine wines preceded lunch and afterwards a bit of Natural Sweet Viognier and Cape Ruby Port was served as farewell. Thank you to Shirley and Philip for choosing Ridgeback and to Lourenza for taking care of the needs of the group so efficiently.



MG Cars at Ridgeback

The evening of the 29th of July, tables laid inside the tasting room and wood crackling away in the fireplace as the curry buffet was being set up on the deck. Our annual Curry Night, as part of Drinks on The Deck, saw guests being treated to chicken, beef, lamb and vegetable curries served with an array of condiments. The wine of choice seemed to be Sauvignon Blanc and Cabernet Franc. As the evening drew to an end, only one bottle of Cab/Franc was left standing...



Our Wines will soon be sporting a new label and it is probably the one we are most proud of. The BWI – Biodiversity and Wine Initiative is a conservation program aimed at safeguarding the Cape Floral Kingdom which is under threat from agriculture and urban development. Here at Ridgeback we are committed to preserving the natural vegetation and BWI is recognizing our efforts.

Hopefully we will soon be able to showcase this with our meander we are planning on launching this summer.

In the tasting room there is a unique balance between the old and the new. Starting with the old... 4 wines have been released from our library and are currently available, but stock is very limited. They include the Ridgeback Merlot 2004, Shiraz 2004, Merlot / Cabernet Franc 2004 and the His Master's Choice 2005. A change to experience aged wine where we've done the ageing for you!

With the new I am of course referring to the newly released vintages. The follow up to the ever so popular Vansha White 2010 has been released under the new name of Vansha Mischief 2011 and is fast proving to be just as popular. Other wines released include the Sauvignon Blanc 2011, Shiraz Rose 2011, Vansha SGMV 2010 and Cabernet Sauvignon 2008 which, if I'm not mistaken, is our most popular red at the moment. Also currently available in the tasting room is our Ridgeback cold pressed, Extra Virgin Olive Oil at R48 or in a combo pack, paired with a Ruby Port 2009 and Natural Sweet Viognier 2010, for R159.



We have been getting a couple of concerned looks from some of our guests, especially those with young children, regarding the electrical fencing around the dam. I can assure you will not be electrified upon your next visit to Ridgeback. The fence runs on a day/night switch and is off during the day. It is merely there to protect our birds from the water mongoose that paid a visit a few months ago, and with devastating effects. Thankfully it seems to be effective and all the ducks, geese and swans will be here to entertain you on your next visit, when you come to try our new Summer Menu in September perhaps?