



LEIDERSBURG

SOUTH AFRICA



Leidersburg is nestled in the heart of the Cape wine lands, half way between Stellenbosch and Paarl. Their 11 acre vineyard was established in 1989 and is perfectly suited for producing premium wines. Located on a northwesterly slope, which ensures proper exposure to the sun and optimal ripening, the loamy gravel topsoil is about four feet deep; the subsoil is gravelly-clay, which serves as a water reservoir during the hot South African summer from October to January.

Winemaker and co-owner Jan du Preez, who is widely recognized as one of the finest vintners in the Stellenbosch and Swartland areas, comes from a family of winemakers. Jan has an unusually comprehensive background, including laboratory analysis, sales and marketing and vineyard preparation and planting. He has studied white wine production at the German Wine Institute and barrel aging for red wines at Robert Mondavi.

As with all fine wines, "we make our wines in the vineyard," notes Jan. Viticulturist and co-owner Brian Craddock devotes countless hours to canopy management to ensure that their grapes receive the ideal amount of sun and exposure to the gentle breezes. Severe cropping reduces the bunches per vine and helps insure optimal color, fruit, acidity and tannins in the grapes. The vineyard is hand harvested at no more than 2.5 tons per acre.

Traditionally known as a producer of small quantities of elegant Cabernet Sauvignon (2,000 cases per year), the Leidersburg range has recently been expanded to include limited amounts of crisp, richly flavored sur lie Sauvignon Blanc.

