



VINUM AFRICA Chenin Blanc

- * 2007 vintage publication: *Wine Enthusiast (9.1.08)* 87 points
 "The nose on this wine impressed from the start, with its clean aromas of apples, spice and citrus. On the palate, an attractive balance of minerality and refreshing fruit triumphs. Not terribly complex, but fun and exciting."
- * 2006 vintage publication: *Wine Spectator* 88 points
 "This is forward, with apple, piecrust and quince notes followed by a hint of grilled nut on the medium-weight finish. On the soft side, but tasty."
- * 2005 vintage publication: *Wine Spectator* 88 points
 "A rich style, with focused fig, almond, melon and salted butter notes that glide through to the lengthy finish. Well done. Drink now."
- * 2005 vintage publication: *Wine Enthusiast (7.1.07)* **BEST BUY** 89 points
- * 2004 vintage publication: *Wine Enthusiast* **BEST BUY** 89 point
 "Just a hint of wood from a small percentage of barrel aging gives this wine an open, buttery character. From vines on the slopes of the Helderberg mountain outside Stellenbosch, the wine lacks pure Chenin varietal character, but there are great, ripe flavors."
- * 2004 vintage publication: *Wine Spectator* 87 points
 "Has mature flavors of brown butter and apple, but stays firm and nervy underneath, with a dry, stony finish. Shows a ginger candy hint too. Drink now through 2006."
- * 2003 vintage publication: *The Wine Advocate* 87 points
 Vinum's 2003 Chenin Blanc displays none of the characteristics that come to mind when one considers its varietal. A California Chardonnay or oaky Australian Semillon look-alike, it offers a rich toasted oak-laden nose, a gorgeously supple texture, and smoky melon flavors. This excellent value is an internationally-styled wine to drink over the next 18 months.

VINUM AFRICA Cabernet Sauvignon

- * 2005 vintage publication: *Wine Enthusiast* 86 points
 The deep, shiny cherry hue and smooth, rich spicy nose combine to put you in a good mood before the wine even hits your tongue. Individual flavours, layered structure & generous fruit. Vinum's aim is to combine the classic structure of Old World Cabs, with a nod to the warmth of the New World's accessible flavours. Intelligent oaking compliments rather than dominates the fruit, allowing it to reflect its origin's natural flavours. Cigar box, blueberry, spiciness, cherry and mocha mingle seamlessly, bridging the lapse between sips. Finishing with a fresh minerality which will allow the wine an exciting future.
- * 2004 vintage publication: *International Wine Cellar* 88 points
 Medium-deep red. Raspberry and flowers on the nose. Sweet, smooth and lively, with good intensity to the red berry and spicy oak flavors. Finishes with substantial ripe tannins. Nicely balanced, suave wine.
- * 2005 vintage publication: *Wine Enthusiast (11.15.06)* **BEST BUY** 89 points
- * 2003 vintage publication: *The Wine Advocate* 87+ points
 If the finish on the black cherry and blackberry-scented 2003 Cabernet Sauvignon fleshes out in the next few months, this wine could merit two to three points more. Big, dense, and ample, it is a medium-bodied, satin-textured effort crammed with sweet, spicy black fruits. Fresh, expressive and enormously appealing, it is slightly marred by a compressed, tightly wound finish. Drink this fine value over the next 5 years.
- * 2002 vintage publication: *The Wine Advocate* 87 points
 Another noteworthy value is Vinum's 2002 Cabernet Sauvignon. Fresh herbs are intermingled with black fruits in its aromatics. On the palate, this wine reveals a medium-bodied, structured personality filled with juicy blackberries and black

currants. It has excellent density of fruit, loads of spices, and a firm finish . . . Projected maturity: now-2007. [Fourth consecutive vintage as an EXCELLENT VALUE]

ARCHIVES

VINUM AFRICA CHENIN BLANC

- * **2003 vintage** publication: *Nation's Restaurant News* May 10, 2004
Listed as "Wine of the Week" by Mary Ewing-Mulligan, MW and Ed McCarthy
- * **2002 vintage** publication: *Wine & Spirits* 87 points
"Gravelly scents of minerals and lime coast through this Chenin, lasting with a quite, yellow fruitiness. Enjoy it fresh with light fish."
- * **2001 vintage** publication: *The Wine Advocate* 86 points
"Looking for a creamy, oaky white in a fancy bottle that tastes like a \$20 California Chardonnay but costs under half as much? If so, Vinum Africa's 2001 Chenin Blanc is for you! Its toasted almond and hazelnut-scented nose leads to a light to medium-bodied core of oak-infused cream. The wine is balanced, fresh, has nothing in common with its varietal, yet delivers lots of flavor in an international (read commercial) style. Drink this excellent value over the next year."

VINUM AFRICA CABERNET SAUVIGNON

- * **2002 vintage** publication: *Wine Spectator* 87 points
Juicy currant, blackberry and toast notes revolve around the ripe, almost jammy core in this modern-style red. Forward and fleshy. Drink now.
- * **2001 vintage** publication: *The Wine Advocate* 88 points
"This wine sports a gorgeous nose of ripe blackberries, cassis, and black raspberries. It has excellent to outstanding depth of fruit, concentration, and power. Lush waves of dark berries can be found throughout its character as well as in its long, flavorful finish. Drink it over the next 4 to 5 years." An EXCELLENT VALUE.
- * **2000 vintage** publication: *The Wine Advocate* 86 points
"Made by Edouard Labeye, Robert Kacher's "man-in-France", this structured, foursquare wine has appealing blackberry aromas, good depth of fruit, and a warm, if somewhat tight finish. Assorted black fruits, including cassis, blackberries, and boysenberries, can be discerned in this excellent value's rustic personality. Projected maturity: now-2005".
- * **1999 vintage** publication: *The Wine Advocate* 86 points
Certainly a contender for Best Wine Label of the Year . . . It reveals sweet red fruit aromas, and proposes a light to medium-bodied, tangy, and elegant personality. Red and black currants, cherries, and raspberries can be found in this bright, lively Cabernet. It is not a blockbuster, but appears to be the New World's answer to Loire Valley Cabernets. Drink it over the next 2-3 years. It is an excellent value."