

# RAFFLES FINE WINES

## CAPETOWN CALLING!

*....even better value*

We have just heard that our first container shipment from South Africa has recently departed from Capetown. With all the doom and gloom, talk of recession and a Sterling crisis we sat down and had a brainstorming session. How could we put out an offer to regular customers that would be both exciting and with prices that would actually be down on 2008? Well, we have managed it and all the wines in this offer are at least £1 less than they were on our list last year.

With the Euro some 25% stronger against Sterling and the US\$ similarly so all arrows pointed towards South Africa where the Rand remains weak. Luckily, Marcus spent a large part of January 2008 exploring the Cape Winelands and with knowledge gleaned and contacts made, the timing now is absolutely perfect to offer you some of their exceptionally good value wines.

### VONDELING

Based in the Voor Paadberg some 10 miles North of Paarl this British owned Estate has really got to grips with what we want here in the UK. In a nutshell this is value and high quality. This concern has been under way for a decade with massive investment in the form of equipment and expertise. Their new winemaker Matthew Copeland arrived 18 months ago and has brought with him an international approach to winemaking having, like so many young South Africans in this industry, travelled extensively to other wine producing countries to hone his skills.

We first bought their wines in December 2007 and the wines received a warm welcome from you all. The quirkily named and utterly delicious Baldrick which is Shiraz with a dash of Viognier and clearly aping Cote Rotie, was just one of the firm favourites.

**The Old Fire Station Old Market Nailsworth GL6 0DU 01453 833133  
Email: [info@raffles-wine.com](mailto:info@raffles-wine.com) - [www.raffles-wine.com](http://www.raffles-wine.com) Fax 01453 834681**

## **PORTER MILL & CHAMONIX**

On the attached offer we have decided to do three mixed case offers at no extra cost. Two six pack and one mixed dozen box. In the dozen mixed cases we have included four other South African favourites from our list in the form of **Porter Mill** Pinotage 2006, **Circumstance** Merlot 2006, **Chamonix** Chardonnay 2007 and **Chamonix** Pinot Noir 2007. The last two are not commercially available wines but show just how Burgundian the Chamonix style can be. Situated high up (1200 ft), at the foot of the dramatic mountains that surround Franschhoek , and facing North, they enjoy a much cooler climate.

## **SPRINGFIELD**

This exceptional Winery is situated on the vast Robertson valley floor. This region is virtually encircled by high mountains and enjoys a special climate unique in the Cape. Springfield itself is located alongside the fast flowing river called The Breede . Their wines have a worldwide reputation and in South Africa itself their ***Life from Stone*** Sauvignon is listed in every top restaurant you care to visit. Marcus spent a marvellous day here with their winemaker Johan van Zyl who, rather like Matthew Copeland at Vondeling has travelled extensively.

Our container docks in Southampton around 18<sup>th</sup> March but we are taking advanced orders as, at these prices, it will be a sure fire success in these changing times. We urge you to make reservations early in order to not miss out!

NB All these wines will be available for Tasting, here at the warehouse from Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March for a week.

**Marcus Smith**

**Jeremy Hill**

## THE WINES

- Baldrick (Shiraz with a dash of Viognier) 2007 Vondeling 6.95  
*Clean; red and black fruits, including mulberries and strawberries are evident, with some gentle floral and oak flavours in the background*
- Sauvignon Blanc 2008 Vondeling 6.65  
*Tropical with lots of granadilla and gooseberries. Packed with ripe fruit the wine has an elegant, fresh balancing acidity, some flintiness and a lingering aftertaste of guava*
- Babiana ( Chenin Blanc and Viognier) 2006 Vondeling 8.15  
*Enormously complex nose with hints of jasmine, ginger and lemon blossom, packed with peaches, pears and underlying minerality. Judicial oak creates a creamy rich wine which will develop further. Long aftertaste.*
- Erica Shiraz 2006 Vondeling 9.85  
*Great opulence on the bouquet and concentration on the palate. Wafts of ripe plum, black currant and Christmas cake are interlaced with sweet cloves and scented sandalwood. Well weighted oak brings its own spiciness with plenty of black pepper and a hint of charred wood.*
- Porter Mill Pinotage 2006  
*Lots of ripe brambly fruit here. A fine example of South Africa's indigenous grape variety*
- Fire Finch Ripe Red 2006 Springfield Estate 7.55  
*A blend of Cabernet and Merlot grapes. Smooth rich and soft – easy and satisfying*
- Sauvignon Blanc 2008 **Life from Stone** Springfield Estate 9.20  
*The minimum yield of a vine rooted in 70% quartz stone is truly reflected in this wine. The flinty black powder nose with a mineral palate becomes more pronounced with age.*
- Chardonnay 2006 **Wild Yeast** Springfield Estate 10.55  
*This chardonnay fermented with the native yeast present in the vineyard, abounds with flavours and pear drops. Deliciously complex.*
- Cabernet Sauvignon 2006 **Whole Berry** Springfield Estate 10.45  
*Whole berry maceration is followed by fermentation with natural yeasts, racking and one year's maturation in barrels. The result is a velvety wine with softer tannins and classical varietal characteristics.*
- Chardonnay Reserve 2007 Chamonix Estate Franschhoek 12.45  
*This vineyard is located 1200 ft above sea level. Aged in French alliers oak barrels for 14 months it bears the hallmark of fine white burgundy .*
- Pinot Noir 2007 Chamonix Estate 12.45  
*This wine is also aged for 14 months in Alliers oak and again is aping fine red burgundy*
- Merlot Circumstance 2006 Waterkloof Stellenbosch P Boutinot 13.50  
*Sensational Merlot expressing its fortuitous terroir. Described by us as a bit of a Pomerol beater!*

NB Due to tiny allocation of Chamonix wines, we are only able to offer them in the mixed case selection

## **TASTING CASE OF ALL WINES**

One Bottle each of the following :-

Porter Mill Pinotage  
Circumstance Merlot  
Baldrick Vondeling  
Erica Shiraz Vondeling  
Fire Finch Ripe Red Springfield  
Cabernet Sauvignon Whole Berry Springfield  
Pinot Noir Chamonix  
Sauvignon Blanc Vondeling  
Sauvignon Life From Stone Springfield  
Chardonnay Whole Berry Springfield  
Chardonnay Chamonix  
Babiana Noctiflora Vondeling

Total per case of 12 **£115** Inc.Vat

## **TASTING CASE OF SIX (BUDGET)**

One bottle of each of the following:-

Sauvignon Blanc Vondeling  
Porter Mill Pinotgae  
Fire Finch Ripe Red Springfield  
Babiana Noctiflora Vondeling  
Baldrick Vondeling  
Sauvignon Life From Stone Springfield

Total per case of 6 **£45.45** Inc. Vat

## **TASTING CASE OF SIX (PREMIUM)**

One bottle of each of the following:-

Sauvignon Blanc Life From Stone  
Chardonnay Wild Yeast Springfield  
Erica Shiraz Vondeling  
Cabernet Sauvignon Whole Berry Springfield  
Merlot Circumstance Waterkloof  
Babiana Noctiflora Vondeling

Total per Case of 6 **£61.70** Inc.Vat