

## Second Consecutive Gold For Boland Cellar Reserve Merlot

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**BOLAND  
CELLAR**

The [2009 Boland Cellar Reserve Merlot](#) received a gold medal at the annual [Veritas Awards](#) for the second year running, but the path to success started many years before when a single vineyard was planted in the perfect spot.

According to Boland Cellar winemaker Bernard Smuts, the Merlot bush vines that yielded this award-winning wine, was planted in the late 1990's on the plains between Paarl Mountain and the foothills of Paardenberg. "The dark Tukulu soils allowed the roots to grow deep and strong, while specialised canopy management offered the berries sufficient protection from the sun. Green harvesting controlled production and preserved the delicate flavours in the smaller, more concentrated fruit," explains Smuts.

"Although we advocate a hands-off approach in the cellar, we value the role of the human stewards of the grape as crucial components in achieving fine expressions of regionality in our wines. Both the viticulturist and winemaker had a few crucial decisions to make during the creation of this special wine," says Smuts.



The result of this collaboration is Boland Cellar Reserve Merlot – an unfiltered and naturally fermented, full-bodied red wine with an intense red colour, concentrated aromas of ripe fruit and violets with a lingering aftertaste of concentrated aromas.

Boland Cellar also received silver medals for the 2011 Boland Cellar Loubser Family Reserve Pinotage, 2011 Boland Cellar Reserve Merlot, 2010 Boland Cellar Reserve Wooded Chardonnay and the 2010 Boland Cellar Reserve Merlot.

Bronze medals went to 2011 Boland Cellar Reserve The Geldenhuis Family Wooded Chardonnay, the 2010 Boland Cellar The Loubser Family Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, the 2012 Boland Cellar Five Climates Chenin Blanc, the 2009 Boland Cellar Reserve Pinotage, the 2010 Boland Cellar Reserve Shiraz and the 2012 Boland Cellar Five Climates Chardonnay.

The Veritas Awards give recognition to wines of exceptional quality and the distinctive Veritas symbol of excellence serves as an authoritative quality guideline for wine connoisseurs. The Veritas Awards, South Africa's oldest and largest competition for market-ready wines, are presented annually by the South African National Wine Show Association (SANWSA).