

THE TEAM



Lucas de Kock, viticulturist

I've been in the wine industry for a decade now. Planting and nurturing vines – and just being so close to nature – are what I love most.

For the past six years, I've been fortunate enough to work closely with winemaker Ian Naudé and learn more about the winemaking side. Together we've visited numerous vineyards and wineries, not just in our own Cape wine lands, but also in France and Australia, borrowing some ideas which we are using to raise the bar in our own backyard.

Growing to understand Ian's winemaking style and the philosophy behind it makes it easier for me to go and source the kind of grapes he wants (also depending, of course, on what Mother Nature decides to throw at us). There are a few basic factors which determine the quality of the wine grape: climate, soil, aspect, type of clone and (this is where I come in), vineyard

practices.

On a wine farm you are fairly restricted when it comes to the above-mentioned factors but in our new venture we have a lot of freedom of choice. We select a particular varietal and research areas where it's known for producing award-winning wines. I then pinpoint a vineyard with the correct terroir and work closely with the producer to ensure quality. By doing this, we are able to optimise the varietal characteristics that produce top wines.