

DELHEIM Worth the Journey



DELHEIM is 7th BWI CHAMPION

The Sperling's family commitment to conservation was inspired by Delheim's founder Hans Hoheisen.

" The Hoheisen name is synonymous with one of the biggest land donations ever in the history of WWF South Africa. In 1990 Mr Hans Hoheisen donated 13 833 ha on the Kruger National Park's western border to WWF. It was on part of this land that the Southern African Wildlife College was later constructed to train protected area managers from Africa for Africa." - WWF South Africa Annual Review 2005

Delheim Wines of the Simonsberg Ward in Stellenbosch, South Africa, was one of the first wine farms to become a Biodiversity and Wine Initiative (BWI) member. Having now introduced its sophisticated waste water management plan on the farm, Delheim has been certified a BWI Champion and is the seventh SA wine farm to achieve this status.

To qualify as a champion, a BWI member must develop a Conservation Management Plan for approval by the BWI and, then demonstrate and prove that it has implemented key scheduled activities within the plan. Champions must have had a minimum two-year track record of good conservation practice and, once awarded Championship status, must present tangible results of their commitment to biodiversity conservation regularly.

Delheim has installed a highly sophisticated water purification system to recycle all the water on the farm – from its cellar, the restaurant, the residences and all the farm buildings – and this recycled water provides irrigation for the vineyards and residential gardens. Instead of using insecticides to control aphids in the vineyards, Delheim uses parasites to control them naturally.

Notes:

* Delheim recently won the Sustainable Wine Tourism Practices Award 2008.

*The Klapmutskop Conservancy, which was the Cape Fox 2007 winner for the best managed conservancy, has now been extended by three and half times its original size to include Muratie, Delheim (the main farm), Quoin Rock, Knorhoek, Kanonkop, Uitkyk, Rustenberg, Thelema and Marklew.

* A Biodiversity Information Centre has been established at Delvera, which is the hub for the Klapmutskop Conservancy. This centre helps to create awareness among visitors about conservation management – anything from bio-control to waste water management and recycling.