



A lot has happened since we last sent out a newsletter - so much of the world news was negative. We don't want to add to the gloom of economic meltdown and looming recession. We're 'glass half full' people and believe that crisis situations are opportunities to advance. Talking about the 'glass half full' mentality, this winter Ernst successfully completed his 7th Comrades marathon - an 86 kilometre annual endurance event between Durban and Pietermaritzburg. Maybe it is the health components in the Ernst & Co red wine which gives him all the energy to endure such pain!



In September Cape Town played host to hundreds of international journalists, buyers and agents at the bi-annual showcase for South African wine - Cape Wine 2008. Not only was it truly world class in terms of its staging, professionalism and appearance but the seminars and specialist workshops on topics such as terroir, the economic and political climate in South Africa, were well run and well attended. The interest from Asian buyers was particularly noticeable.



Ernst & Co was officially launched in California on 1st November. Our Ernst & Co invitation to Americans is to look Southways (and not Sideways!) - offering the market typical South African Pinotage and Pinotage Rosé as well as our lauded Sauvignon Blanc. The initial feedback from the US is that Ernst & Co over delivers on quality - which is precisely our intention. If you'd like more information on where to find Ernst & Co wines in the USA, please contact ernst@broncowines.com <mailto:ernst@broncowines.com> .



On the home front we've just released our 2007 Merlot and 2007 Shiraz and both Ernst and Ezzanne are really happy with the results.

Ezzanne is probably a little more proprietorial about the Shiraz than her dad but that might have something to do with the fact that this is the first wine she made all by herself! We both think she did a great job.

Merlot 2007

Aromas of sweet, ripe plums, summer cherries with a hint of clove spice at the back. The flavour carries to the palate - plum and tangy cherry, with the chocolate becoming prominent. Tannins are well judged and soft. There's a wonderful length of flavour to this wine.

Shiraz 2007

The bouquet is of buchu* , herbs, fynbos and ripe blackberries. In the mouth there's succulent black berry fruit with wood spice and a sour cherry tang. Good smoky grip of tannin but a long coffee-flavoured finish.

**Buchu is a Cape fynbos treasure growing naturally in the mountainous areas of the Cape.*



If you'd like to put our food and wine matching skills to the test, feel free to do so. Ordering our wine is very simple:

- E-mail Ernst@ggwines.co.za or call us on 021 865 2895 to request an order form.
- Confirm electronic payment by e-mail or fax (using your surname as reference for payment).

After that, the wine will be delivered to your address within seven days (South Africa). For orders or deliveries from Wine Logistics in Brussels, Belgium, please contact us for our Euro pricelist.

All that remains is to wish you all well over the forthcoming festive season. For our southern hemisphere clients, remember the sunscreen as you enjoy the holidays, and for those in cooler northern climes, wrap up warmly this winter and enjoy our hearty red wines. Warmest wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Ernst Gouws

Ernst Gouws & Family