NEIL ELLIS

Western Cape, South Africa

HISTORY

Neil Ellis is one of the doyens of the South African wine industry. He has journeyed from pioneering négociant beginnings in the early 1980's, seeking out parcels of interesting vines to make exceptional wines under his own name, to a well-established family enterprise with a local and international reputation for exceptional elegance and quality. Today, the journey of Neil Ellis Wines is not only about Neil Ellis. After 40 years of making wine, the next stage of the journey has begun with Neil's son, Warren, sharing responsibilities as winemaker and viticulturist, in the pursuit of quality winemaking. Neil's youngest son, Charl heads the financial team, while his daughter, Margot, fulfills the role of brand manager.

VINEYARDS & WINEMAKING

Mindful that no single vineyard can satisfy all grape varieties, Neil Ellis set out to identify distinct terroir in which individual varietals would excel. He placed the emphasis not only on environmental, but on viticultural, with a dedicated team growers which extends into to the vinification practices. Vineyards are located across the Western Cape of South Africa in Jonkershoek Elgin, Groenekloof, and Piekenierskloof.

The Neil Ellis vision is to create refined wines that are expressive of their terrain and rank amongst South Africa's finest. A pursuit of quality—nothing less. The environmentally sensitive winery, built in 2010, houses the tasting room, administration and production facilities. It also has its own crush pad, fermentation room, barrel maturation cellar and stabilization and bottling facilities, giving them full control of every aspect of the winemaking process.

Appellation Stellenbosch, Darling/Groenekloof, Elgin

Year Founded 1993

Proprietor Neil Ellis

Winemaker Warren Ellis

Annual Production
50,000 9L cases

Varieties Cultivated
Cabernet Sauvignon, Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay

Farming Practices
Sustainable