

Best of Wine Tourism Awards winners 2022 announced

The winners for the 2022 Great Wine Capitals Best of Wine Tourism Awards have been announced. The awards provide an opportunity for wineries and other visitor-serving businesses in each region to gain exposure and recognition for their commitment to presenting leading wine tourism options, while giving visitors a one-stop list of the best places to experience.



Source: Supplied

The winners were announced at a ceremony held at the Creation Wines, in Hermanus on Tuesday, 12 October 2021.

Now in their 23rd year, the awards saw a number of entries from wineries in each of the Great Wine Capitals Global Network's member cities, in seven different categories, namely: accommodation, wine tourism restaurant, sustainable wine tourism practice, architecture and landscape, art and culture, innovative wine tourism experiences as well as wine tourism services.

The judging process entailed an in-depth reviewing process, where applications received were reviewed and scored based on standard criteria.

Seven expert judges and three Wine Tourism Ambassador Award judges conducted "ghost visits" to the wineries within each of their assigned categories. The judges then attended a final adjudication review, where each expert judge presented their findings, and a winner was selected for each category.

Winners

1. Accommodation

Winner: Delaire Graff

2. Wine Tourism Restaurants

Winner: Creation Wines

3. Wine Tourism Services

Winner: Creation Wines

4. Sustainable Wine Tourism Practices

Winner: Vergelegen

5. Architecture & Landscape

Winner: Vergelegen

6. Art & Culture

Winner: La Motte Wine Estate

7. Innovative Wine Tourism Experiences

Winner: Babylonstoren

According to the organisers, South Africa's unique history demands that there should be additional awards to recognise the ongoing transformation in the wine tourism industry - properties that proudly celebrate our culture and heritage, as well as those leaders making innovative efforts to ensure sustainability and conservation in the field.

The winners of the Wine Tourism Ambassador Awards are:

1. The Wine Tourism Diversity Award:

Winner: PaardenKloof Wines

2. The Authentic South African Experience Award:

Winner: A A Badenhorst

3. WWF Conservation Pioneer Award:

Winner: De Wetshof

"I would like to address my sincere congratulations to the 2022 winners of this new edition of Best Of Wine Tourism awards contest. The quality of the wine tourism offer in the Western Cape wine regions is a credit to the tourism industry as a whole in South Africa. I would also like to congratulate the winners for their sustainable practices, an example for the whole world while the wine industry, all over the globe, is working hard to implement solutions to mitigate their impact on environment," said Catherine Leparmentier Dayot, managing director: Great Wine Capitals Global Network.

"The Great Wine Capitals Best Of Wine Tourism Awards is a perfect opportunity for our wine tourism operators to share our winemaking craft, culture and experiences with visitors from across the globe. We are truly honoured to have worked closely with industry stakeholders to recognise the wineries and wine tourism-related businesses for having pushed through the challenges the industry has faced this past year and continued to excel and innovate," concluded, Monika Luel,

Wesgro's chief marketing officer.

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