

Rickety Bridge Wine Estate

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This remarkable winery has a long standing tradition of winemaking, as the original cellar infrastructure of concrete and underground tanks prove. Unfortunately, these underground tanks had to be filled up to level the floor of the old cellar. A new winery in was completed in 1997, when the old cellar was renovated and converted into a barrel fermentation centre. Over the last few years the cellar has been re-equipped and modern cooling equipment was installed in the renovated cellar during 2000. The cellar has the capacity to handle 200 Tonnes of Grapes.

Winemaker, Wynand Grobler, took over from Wilhelm van Rooyen in December 2007. Wynand was born and raised in Bloemfontein and matriculated at Grey College in 1999. Growing up in the Free State he didnâ€™t have much contact with wine making as such but frequently enjoyed some wine out of his fatherâ€™s underground cellar, the cellar being a rarity in itself in the region. He was attracted to the idea of making wine by a lifetime family friend by the name of Prof. Sakkie Pretorius, who was head of the Stellenbosch University Wine department at the time. Two years into his studies at Stellenbosch University, he started working casually at Rust en Vrede wine estate to learn the industry and his wine making career got underway. From Rust en Vrede he stayed in the â€œfamily businessâ€ and went to work at Ernie Els Wines.

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