

The Story of Constance

In 1685, Simon van der Stel, the governor of the Cape was granted a large piece of fertile land where he created his beloved farm 'Constantia'. Throughout the many changes of ownership and subdivisions since his death in 1712, it has retained its tranquillity and beauty as the oldest surviving wine farm in South Africa.

During the Cloete era from 1778 until 1886, the wines from Groot Constantia became world-famous, sought after by kings and noblemen and the subject of literary praise across the globe.

In 2004, a piece of glass bearing the words 'Constantia Wyn' was discovered on the shores of Lewes, a city in Delaware on the American East Coast. Careful research by US historians pointed the origin of the glass to a ship "The Severn", which had sunk there in 1774. The find inspired historians and craftsmen to reconstruct the original bottle, an elegant vessel which is now being used to revive the old Grand Constance trademark.

Celebrating the farm's rich history, Grand Constance is produced using the same traditional methods which made 18th century Groot Constantia wine famous. Muscat de Frontignan grapes are sun-ripened on the vines, after which the raisined grapes are pressed, fermented and aged in oak barrels before being bottled.

— G E S T I G —
1685—
**GROOT
CONSTANTIA**
— L A N D G O E D —

