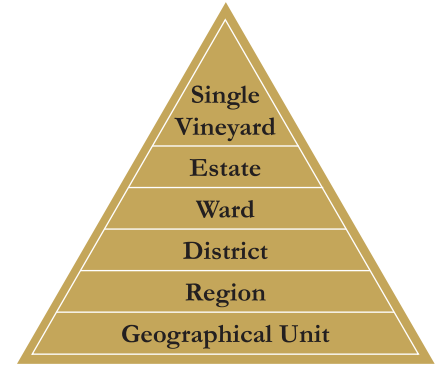


A SENSE OF PLACE

Like the AVA system in the United States and the AOC system in France, South Africa demarcates its wine growing areas through the Wine of Origin Scheme.

When the term ‘Wine of Origin’ or the abbreviation ‘W.O.’ together with the name of a production area, such as Paarl, Stellenbosch or Coastal Region appears on a label, it confirms that 100% of the grapes from which the wine was made come from that specific area.

The system is tiered on area size, as illustrated in the diagram on the right.



LOCATION

Western Cape > Coastal Region > Paarl District

A ward is designated when a particular area within a district is deemed to produce wines of exceptional and unique character. The Paarl district has two such areas, one of which plays host to Backsberg - **the Simonsberg-Paarl ward**.

Situated on the prime winegrowing slopes of the Simonsberg mountain, Backsberg vineyards benefit from slightly cooler temperatures than that of Paarl proper and enjoy the same decomposed granite soils found on the Stellenbosch side.

KEY FACTS

- Wine has been grown on the Simonsberg since the 17th century.
- Paarl vineyards enjoy a typically Mediterranean climate, where long, hot summer days give way to cooling afternoon breezes.
- The Simonsberg slopes allow for good airflow, ensuring healthy vines in the vineyards.
- Vineyards are planted on ancient soils of clay loam and weathered granite. These large granite chunks provide for excellent water drainage.
- The Simonsberg-Paarl ward is roughly 5°C (9°F) cooler in temperature than the main areas of the Paarl district.
- Backsberg is located on the border of the Paarl and Stellenbosch districts, equidistant from the two city centres.
- Our vineyards are north-facing and receive morning sun, preferable to the scorching afternoon rays.
- Our range in altitude, 180m - 350m (590ft - 1150ft), allows us to work with heat-sensitive varieties towards the top and more hardy ones lower down on the property.

