



Diners Club
INTERNATIONAL®

70
Years
IN SOUTH AFRICA

WINE
LIST 
AWARDS 2026

ENTRY FORM

ENTRY FORM

Information marked with an asterisk below will not be used for publication and is for internal use only

Are you a Diners Club Member? Y N

Are you a first time entrant? Y N

*Diners Club Merchant No (If Applicable)

Name of Establishment

Address Street Postcode

Postal Address

Suburb/Town Postcode

Owner *Phone

*Email

Manager *Phone

*Email

Website

Where did you hear about the Diners Club Winelist Awards or if you are a long-standing entrant, how long have you participated?

Do you have a dedicated wine steward or sommelier? Y N

If yes, please supply person's name/s and South African Sommeliers Association; Court of Master Sommeliers or Association de la Sommellerie (ASI). A WSET or CWA certification will also be accepted.

Is your wine list available on your website? Y N

How often is your wine list updated or changed? Y N

Do you pay listing fees to wineries and/or distributors? Y N

Name of Chef

A high resolution logo of your establishment, photographs of your establishment and signature dishes, as well as a profile of your chef must be submitted with your competition entry.

DINERS CLUB WINELIST AWARD CRITERIA

Thank you for your interest in the Diners Club Winelist awards which for more than two decades has been a symbol endorsing the best wine lists in South Africa. The following explains what we look for when judging.

Please note:

A general note on listing wine vintages with wines:

- We accept that changes to vintages may occur without your prior knowledge.
- We will accept a rider to a list that carries wine vintages which says “subject to availability” or “subject to vintage change” but a list needs to be set out with the display of wine-specific vintages as the default.
- We will not accept “2014/15” as an example of vintage identification, as the wine’s description should change per vintage.

SILVER

Your wine list could achieve a Silver Award if:

- It contains very few wines across a very few categories and styles.
- It contains at least four South African wines available for sale by the glass.
- Please indicate all Platter’s by Diners Club SA award winning wines.

GOLD

Your wine list could achieve a Gold Award if:

- It contains a reasonable range of wine categories to showcase most major styles.
- It contains an adequate number of wines per category for the type of establishment: casual, smart-casual, or sophisticated, depending on menu, ambience, theme and location.
- The wines are described with adequate tasting notes.
- It contains at least four South African wines available for sale by the glass, from the main wine categories/ styles.
- Please indicate all Platter’s by Diners Club SA award winning wines.

DINERS CLUB WINELIST AWARD CRITERIA

PLATINUM

Your wine list could achieve a Platinum Award if:

- It meets all the requirements of a Gold list and -
- It displays the individual wines' vintages throughout
- It contains a very good range of wines in all/most categories to showcase all the major styles, some newer and lesser known categories, and wines that suit the type of establishment.
- The list contains wines at varied price points to offer value across all wine categories.
- The list carries informative wine descriptions that go beyond a "copy and paste" from the back label wine notes or distributors' information.
- The list carries food and wine pairing suggestions beyond standard recommendations, linking your menu items to the wines on your list.
- The list explains which region of origin.
- It contains at least four South African wines available for sale by the glass across multiple wine categories/styles.
- Please indicate all Platter's by Diners Club SA award winning wines.

DINERS CLUB WINELIST AWARD CRITERIA

DIAMOND

Your wine list could achieve a Diamond Award if:

It meets all the requirements of a Platinum list and -

- It displays the individual wines' accurate vintages throughout.
- It contains a substantial number of wines per category for the type of establishment;
- The list contains excellent wines in all/most categories and at varied price points.
- The list clearly contains exciting new wines along with classic labels.
- It contains a reserve/select list of aged wines.
- It offers very good, personalised, and/or informative wine descriptions, or the restaurant has an accredited and verified sommelier team.
- The list (or the wine stewards/sommeliers) is able to offer personalised food and wine pairings.
- The list is free of notable errors in information.
- The list explains the regions of origin.
- The list has contents and/or an index to aid navigation; or navigation is made easy for the diner.
- The list will ideally have some representation of foreign wines and certainly carry vintage or "reserve" wines.
- The list should offer wines in a variety of bottle sizes/formats.
- The list should clearly explain its corkage policy, if any.
- The list contains numerous and interesting wines by the glass, representing many of the wine categories and from multiple producers, of which should be South African.
- Please indicate all Platter's by Diners Club SA award winning wines.

ICON

Your wine list could achieve an Icon Award if:

It meets all the requirements of a Diamond list and -

- It carries an extensive international selection with good wines in multiple categories and/or from multiple countries (in other words not just a nominal selection).
- It contains an impressive reserve/vintage selection that displays a real interest in wine curation.
- It contains "flights" of particular wines.
- It displays a very significant interest in wine of the highest quality.
- It is free of errors in information.
- A sommelier is used by default.
- It represents a list of international stature.
- Please indicate all Platter's by Diners Club SA award winning wines.
- The list contains numerous and interesting wines by the glass representing multiple wine categories and producers, of which at least four should be South African

RULES OF THE COMPETITION

1. Diners Club is the principal sponsor of the Winelist Awards. Please direct all correspondence to winelist@dinersclub.co.za.
2. Diners Club is responsible for the organisation and administration of the awards, It's decisions regarding the intent, application and interpretation of the rules is final.
3. Participation confirms unconditional acceptance and agreement to follow these rules.
4. Should any participant as defined in (3) above suffer loss of any kind and for whatever reason as a result of such participation, such as expenses or liabilities resulting there from, these shall be for his own account and any right to claim against Diners Club is automatically waived through the act of participation.
5. Diners Club reserves the right to alter, amend or cancel all or parts of these rules at any stage between the announcement of the results and the issuing of entry forms for the following year's Awards. The right is also reserved to disqualify entries in the interest of eliminating artificial advantage (e.g. a proprietor using reserve stocks common to more than one restaurant so that entries for each restaurant are submitted in one or more categories).
6. The results of judging by appointed independent specialists shall be final and no discussion or communication regarding results will be entered into by Diners Club or its agents.
7. Winners of the Awards undertake to prominently display the Diners Club Winelist award in their establishment. Stickers and decals are given out with the awards, and are to be used at the winners' discretion. Should we find that you are displaying the certificate and do not accept the Diners Club Card for payment, we have the right to ask you to remove the certificate that is displayed.
8. Please note that entrants may at any time be visited to assess the accuracy of the wine list submitted for this competition. If the list in use is substantially different to the list submitted, this may be cause for disqualification or rescindment of the award.
9. Restaurants are to offer Diners Club members an exclusive offer for an agreed period.
10. Restaurants should submit hi-res images of their establishment, the menu (if not the original hard copy), the profiles of their chef and/or sommelier, as well as examples of signature dishes for review by the judges.
11. **Restaurants must be merchants of Diners Club at the announcement of the awards. Non-merchant restaurants at time of entry of the awards will be contacted to conclude a merchant agreement. Should Diners Club members wish to pay with their Diners Club cards, the restaurant is obligated to accept their card.**

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1. Restaurant entrants must be over 18 years of age to enter the competition.
2. Entrants have read the entry information and rules of the competition and submit entry subject to the conditions and requirements therein (see www.dinersclub.co.za).
3. Submit the completed Entry Form and required extras by 16h00 on 5 June 2026.
4. A panel of judges related to the wine, food and hospitality industries will select the winners of all awards which will be announced in August 2026, and published on the Diners Club website and in national publications.
5. Please note that previous results in this competition do not guarantee the same result in the following year as the quality of South African restaurant lists are continually improving and raising the standards.
6. Entries not completed in accordance with the rules and received later than the closing date cannot be accepted. The judge's decision in relation to any aspect of the competition is final and binding on every person who enters.
7. No correspondence will be entered into.

I, the undersigned, have the authority to complete and sign this entry form on behalf of the establishment. I understand and accept the terms and conditions set out in this schedule and confirm that this entry form has been filled out truthfully and to the best of my knowledge.

Signed

Print Name

Date

ENTRY CHECKLIST

Ensure that you have read through the Judging Criteria and Conditions of Entry and have included the following with your submission:

- ✓ Completed and signed entry form.
- ✓ An original of your current wine list and supplementary wine/spirits/liqueurs
- ✓ A menu.
- ✓ Photographs of the interior and exterior of the restaurant as well as of the table setting
- ✓ Photographs of glassware used for the wines.
- ✓ Brief profile of chef and barista.
- ✓ Photographs of wine decanters (if used) and of wine storage conditions (white and red)
- ✓ Hi-res logo of restaurant.
- ✓ Signature dishes images.
- ✓ Diners Club members exclusive offer.

Note: all originals can be collected from the Diners Club office after judging or at the awards ceremony.

LOGGING YOUR ENTRY

Entries must be delivered to the relevant address below. All entries for all regions must be received by 16h00 on 5 June 2026 to be considered eligible.

Attention:

Diners Club | C/O Gerda Burger
Block D at Constantia Valley Office Park
4 Ellis Street | Constantia Kloof
Roodepoort | 1709