BACKGROUND
Allesverloren, situated on the south-eastern slopes of the Kasteelberg near Riebeek West, is the oldest estate in the Swartland Wine of Origin district and is renowned for its red wines and Fine Old Vintage. The farm, which dates back to 1704, began producing wine exactly one century later. In 1872 Allesverloren was acquired by Daniel Francois Malan and has remained in the Malan family for five generations.

Current owner Danie Malan and his late father, Fanie, were among the wine pioneers of the Swartland, ably demonstrating the outstanding wine growing potential of what was once considered the breadbasket of the Cape. While wheat remains the major crop in the region, increasing numbers of wine farms are established each year to take advantage of the beneficial terroir.

VINEYARDS
The grapes were sourced from vineyards in the Riebeekberg ward. Eight years old at the time of harvesting, the vines grow in Malmesbury shale, known for its good water-retention capacity. Vineyard management practices and judicious grape selection mean that these trellised vines yield no more than 6 to 8 tons per hectare. Some 20% of the vineyards were irrigated, using the drip method, to avoid undue stress to the vines.

WINEMAKING
The grapes were harvested by hand at 23° to 24° Balling. Each vineyard block was separately vinified. The grapes were fermented at 25°C for five to seven days. After malolactic fermentation, the wine was aged in a combination of new (30%) and second-fill (70%) oak barrels for a period of 18 months.

WINEMAKER’S COMMENTS
COLOUR : Deep ruby red.
BOUQUET : An abundance of prune, blackcurrant and white pepper aromas with oak spice and cigar box in the background.
TASTE : A rich and full-bodied wine with a good tannic structure, lots of berry fruit flavours such as blackcurrant and cherries with undertones of dark chocolate.

FOOD PAIRING
Excellent enjoyed on its own or served with poultry, grilled or roasted red meat dishes such as beef or game.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS
ALCOHOL : 13.68 %
RESIDUAL SUGAR : 3.54 g/l
TOTAL ACIDITY : 3.54 g/l
pH : 6.14