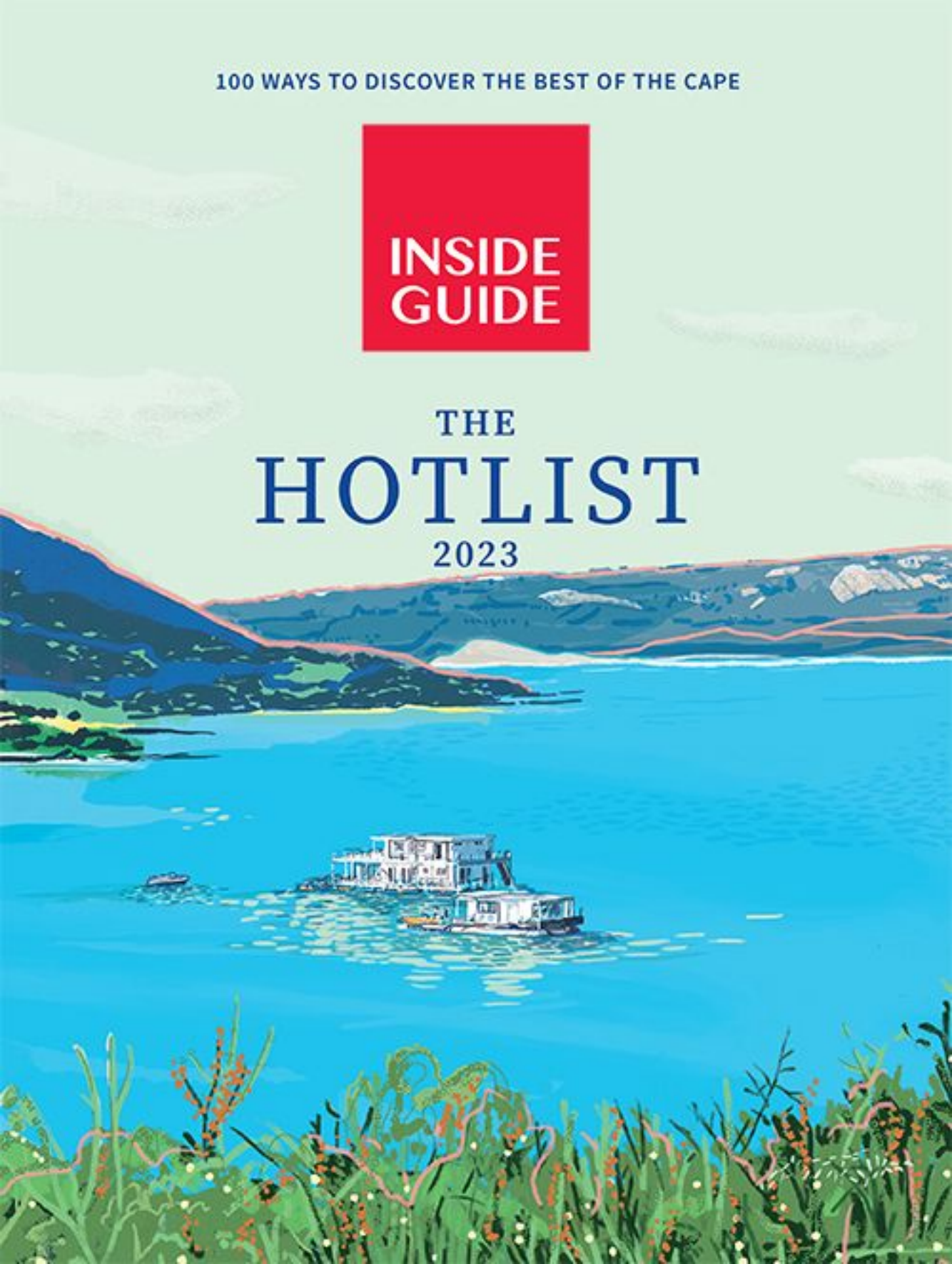


100 WAYS TO DISCOVER THE BEST OF THE CAPE

INSIDE
GUIDE

THE
HOTLIST
2023



Destination Wine Farms

Go for the simple pleasure of good wine, and stay for the scintillating extras at these top estates: superb cuisine, bespoke shopping, outdoor activities, history, culture and utterly amazing views.

1. Babylonstoren

The 3.5-hectare fruit-and-vegetable garden around which the entire farm operates is world-famous, but it's the incredible details that bring real delight. There are 13 grape varieties in the vineyards – you can try the wines in the glass-enclosed tasting room next to the vintage wine cellar (tours available).

The food For a taste of what's freshly picked, head to Babel (in the old cow shed). The Greenhouse offers picnic-style daytime fare, while you can dine in The Bakery at night on certain evenings.

What else? Garden tours, a fabulous Farm Shop and Scented Room, an olive oil and balsamic tour and the Garden Spa (with an authentic hammam). For overnight guests, rowing on the dam, cycling and farm-related activities such as the morning harvest are available. Children will love the farm animals and gardens with mazes and water features – plus the Lekker (sweets) Room. To immerse yourself in this extraordinary place, book a Farmhouse hotel suite or cottage.

Simondium 021 863 3852,
babylonstoren.com

2. Boschendal

Dating back to 1685, the estate's heritage is palpable; ancient oaks and sprawling gardens (both manicured and wild) enhance its bucolic appeal. The farm produces most varietals, with a focus on chardonnay, shiraz and MCC. Life centres around The Werf for meals and wine tastings. There's also a bar that makes great signature cocktails.

The food The Werf Restaurant offers farm-to-table sharing plates, while The Deli serves casual fare and superb picnics (with live music on weekends). In summer, there are Friday-night markets.

What else? Mountain-biking trails (with bikes for hire), farm hikes, garden tours and horse-riding. The Manor House houses a contemporary art gallery in collaboration with the Norval Foundation. Kids will go crazy for The Tree House & Outdoor Experience. Plus, extend your stay on this quintessential farm in a variety of luxurious suites, cottages or a villa.

Franschhoek 021 870 4200,
boschendal.co.za

1. Babylonstoren's beautiful gardens lie in the shadow of the Simonsberg



PHOTOGRAPH SUPPLIED