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Hidden Valley Wines Tasting Event @ The Fine Wine Reserve 6:30 pm, Wednesday, November 16

SAWS is pleased to present the new winemaker of Hidden Valley Wines at a special intimate tasting – limited to 20 members.

Hidden Farms, owned by Dave Hidden, consists of two properties, 23 hectares in Devon Valley and 28 hectares on the Helderberg.

Hidden Valley vintages have been highly acclaimed both locally and overseas, with ABSA Pinotage Top Ten rankings for three consecutive years, a gold medal at the UK Wine Magazine's prestigious International Wine Challenge in London, and recognition by some of the world's top wine experts.

Chris Kelly took over as winemaker for Hidden Valley Wines at the beginning of April, and is

busy supervising the construction of a 200-ton, ultra-modern, high-tech cellar on the Helderberg site, just above Ernie Els vineyards. This should be completed by April, 2006.

Hidden Valley is represented locally by Steven Campbell's Lifford Wine Agency. Come and hear from Hidden Valley's new winemaker about the wines it produces and all the changes at Hidden valley.

Hidden Valley 2001 Pinotage is at Vintages currently. Lifford will have order forms available for consignment stock.

We will meet in the Fine Wine Reserve members' lounge and tasting facility. Called the Friendship Room, it is a cozy, informal venue.

The wines to be tasted include:

Hidden Agenda White blend 2005
Hidden Agenda Red blend 2003
Hidden Valley Pinotage 2001

Hidden Valley Shiraz 2004
Hidden Valley Cabernet Sauvignon 2000

This tasting is **limited to 20 members**. Prompt receipt of your cheque payable to **South African Wine Society** is essential in order to reserve your place at the tasting.

Where: The Fine Wine Reserve Inc., 439 King St W, west of Spadina, Toronto 416 593 9463 if lost
When: 6:30 pm, Wednesday, November 16
Price: \$25.00 **members only**. Sorry, no guests for this event.

Tasting Notes:

Hidden Agenda Red blend 2003

Pinotage 71%, Merlot 12%, Shiraz 12%, Cabernet Sauvignon 5%

The Pinotage grapes were selected from two blocks, one 36 years old and the other 5 years old, both located in the Devon Valley vineyard, the Pinotage vineyards being approximately 11 ha. in total on a fairly steep south-west slope. After pressing, the free-run and press wines were blended and pumped into 225L French and American oak barrels (1st, 2nd & 3rd fill) and matured for 6 months.

Rich ruby red in colour with full fruit, ripe cherries & berries on the nose that follow through to the palate with hints of tobacco, dark chocolate and spicy overtones. A full-bodied, finely balanced wine with ripe tannins. Drinking well now, but will keep for up to 5 years from vintage.

Hidden Agenda White blend 2005

Chenin Blanc 86%, Viognier 10%, Sauvignon Blanc 4%

Harvested fully ripe. Vinified separately some in barrel - 25% Chenin Blanc, all of the Viognier & Sauvignon Blanc, in second-fill French oak for 4 months. This is the maiden vintage.

Hidden Valley Shiraz 2004

Traditionally made, hand-crafted from prime fruit harvested in the Stellenbosch area. Just the right balance of sunshine and cool maritime breezes create conditions in which Shiraz thrives, producing ripe grapes with expressive flavours.

Fermented on skins in traditional red fermenters and matured for 16 months in a mixture of French and American 225L barrels. Deep blackberry colour with ripe aromas of cassis, liquorice, aniseed and vanilla, which follow through onto the palate to give a rich powerful mouthfeel. This full-bodied, finely balanced wine, with fine, ripe tannins, can be drunk straight away, but can also benefit from up to 5 years of careful cellaring.

Hidden Valley Cabernet Sauvignon 2000

The grapes were selected from prime vineyards in Firgrove & Helderberg.

After pressing, the free-run and press wines were blended and pumped into 225L barrels. The wine was barrel matured for 24 months in 77% French, 16% American and 7% Russian oak (1st, 2nd & 3rd fill).

Dark, intense mulberry in colour. Ripe, creamy well-concentrated and structured. This full-bodied, finely balanced wine with firm tannins will benefit from bottle maturation for up to 6 years from vintage.

ACCOLADES

Fairbairn Capital Trophy Wine Show 2004 – Bronze; Swiss International Air Lines Wine Award 2004 – Bronze; Swiss International Air Lines Wine Award 2005 - Seal of Approval; Michelangelo International Wine Awards 2005 – Silver; International Wine Challenge 2005 – Silver, Robert Parker score 89.

Hidden Valley Pinotage 2001

97% Pinotage, 3% Cabernet Sauvignon

The grapes were selected from a 34 year old vineyard located in Devon Valley, the Pinotage vineyard being approximately 6 hectares on a fairly steep south-west slope.

After pressing, the free-run and press wines were blended and pumped into 225L French 78% and American 22% oak barrels and matured for 11 months.

A big wine, broad and ripe. Quite dry with rounded flavours and that Pinotage sweetness on the end. Allow wine to mature for at least three years from vintage and it should continue to improve for six years if not more.

ACCOLADES

Swiss International Air Line Awards 2005 – Bronze; Michelangelo International Wine Awards 2004 – Gold; Swiss International Air Line Wine Award 2004 – Bronze; Michelangelo International Wine Awards 2005 – Silver

Event Registration

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6:30 pm, Wednesday, November 16

Mail to:

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Enclosed find our cheque payable to **South African Wine Society** for _____ member/s @ \$25

Name(s) _____

Phone _____