

# Taransaud Merlot Top 10 Competition



Taransaud  
TONNELLERIE

All producers of Merlot are invited to enter their wines for the 2026 round of the Taransaud Merlot SA Top 10 Competition. Kindly peruse the attached catalogue and submit your completed entry form by the closing date given below. The judging panel will select 10 winning wines, which will be announced at the Awards Function, taking place on Wednesday 17th June 2026. Venue to be confirmed.

Produsente van Merlot word genooi om hul wyne in te skryf vir die 2026 rondte van die Taransaud Merlot SA Top 10 Kompetisie. Sien asseblief die meegaande katalogus en stuur julle voltooië inskrywingsvorm teen die sluitingsdatum hieronder. Die paneel beoordelaars sal 10 wenwyne aanwys wat bekend gestel sal word by die Toekenningsfunksie op Woensdag 17 Junie 2026. Die venue sal bevestig word.

## Judging Panel

Renier van Deventer (Panel Chairman)  
Danielle le Roux  
Morné Kemp  
Dawie Botha  
Janine van Zyl

## Important Dates

Closing Date/Sluitingsdatum	01/05/2026
Wine Delivery/Wynaflewering	11/05/2026
Payment Date/Betaaldatum	01/05/2026
Judging/Beoordeling	13 to 14/05/2026
Awards Function	TBC

Contact Sandra Lotz | C: 082 924 7254 | E: merlot@hallomerlot.co.za



## TERMS & CONDITIONS

**KINDLY ENSURE THAT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS STUDIED CAREFULLY TO AVOID DISQUALIFICATION OR FORFEITURE OF FEES.**

For further information or queries, please contact the office. (See contact details on the front page.)

### 1. ENTRIES

- 1.1 The entry form is attached and available on the Hallo Merlot website and should reach the office by the due date via e-mail. (See front page.)
- 1.2 Completed entries must be accompanied by copies of the **WSR2A and WSR4A**. The analysis (if it does not appear on the above) should be included on a separate document.

**NB: Any outstanding WSR certificates must reach the office no later than Wednesday 6 May 2026 by 17:00.**

### 2. ENTRY FEES

- 2.1 Entry fees for members of Merlot Forum:  
**R740 for the first wine**  
**R540 for further entries**  
**Kindly note: Membership fees must be fully paid to qualify.**  
  
Entry fees for non-members:  
**R1 040 for the first wine**  
**R840 for further entries**  
**(You may utilise your entry to obtain membership of Merlot SA. The above fee covers membership fee until 31 December 2026. Please indicate this on your entry form.)**
- 2.2 Payment together with proof of payment for entries should be received by **1 May 2026** to avoid disqualification.
- 2.3 An additional fee of **R300** per wine will be charged for late entries for both members and non-members. (See dates)
- 2.4 Invoices will be issued for each payment received.
- 2.5 Entry fees will not be refunded under any circumstances.
- 2.6 Payment details:  
**NAME: Merlot Forum**  
**BANK: ABSA**  
**BRANCH CODE: 632005**  
**ACCOUNT NO.: 4090690833 (Current)**

## TERME & VOORWAARDES

**MAAK ASSEBLIEF SEKER DAT U DIE VOLGENDE INLIGTING NOUKEURIG BESTUDEER OM DISKVALIFIKASIE TE VERMY OF GELDE TE VERBEUR.**

Vir verdere inligting of navrae, kontak asb. die kantoor. (Sien kontakbesonderhede op die voorblad.)

### 1. INSKRYWINGS

- 1.1 Die inskrywingsvorm word aangeheg en is ook beskikbaar op die Hallo Merlot webtuiste en moet die kantoor voor die vasgestelde datum per e-pos bereik. (Sien voorblad)
- 1.2 Voltooië inskrywings moet vergesel word van afskrifte van **die WSR2A en WSR4A**. Die analise (indien dit nie op bg. verskyn nie) moet op 'n aparte dokument ingesluit word.

**NB: Enige uitstaande WSR-sertifikate moet die kantoor bereik nie later as Woensdag 6 Mei 2026 teen 17:00.**

### 2. INSKRYWINGSFOOIE

- 2.1 Inskrywingsfooi vir lede van Merlot Forum:  
**R740 vir die eerste wyn**  
**R540 vir verdere inskrywings**  
**Let Wel: Lidmaatskapfooi moet ten volle betaald wees om te kwalifiseer.**  
  
Inskrywingsfooi vir nie-lede:  
**R1 040 vir die eerste wyn**  
**R840 vir verdere inskrywings**  
**(Inskrywings kan aangewend word om lidmaatskap van Merlot SA te bekom. Bg. fooi dek lidmaatskap tot 31 Desember 2026. Dui dit asseblief so aan op die inskrywingsvorm.)**
- 2.2 Betaling, tesame met betalingsbewys vir inskrywings, moet teen **1 Mei 2026** ontvang word om diskwalifikasie te vermy.
- 2.3 'n Bykomende fooi van **R300** per wyn sal gehef word vir laat inskrywings vir beide lede en nie-lede. (Sien datums)
- 2.4 Fakture sal uitgereik word vir elke betaling wat ontvang word.
- 2.5 Inskrywingsfooi sal onder geen omstandighede terugbetaal word nie.
- 2.6 Betalingsbesonderhede:  
**NAAM: Merlot Forum**  
**BANK: ABSA**  
**TAKKODE: 632005**  
**REKENING-NR.. 4090690833 (Lopend)**

### 3. REQUIREMENTS TO PARTICIPATE

- 3.1 Producers must have the following quantity in stock:
- A minimum of 180 bottles:  
*15 cases (12 x 750 ml) or  
30 cases (6 x 750 ml).*

**NB: This stock must be available at the time of judging until the awards ceremony and producers failing to adhere to this rule, will be disqualified (Also see point 8.2)**

- 3.2 The organisers reserve the right to physically conduct inspections to verify stock and may demand proof that stock is indeed available for sale.

### 4. WINES FOR JUDGING

- 4.1 **Merlot:**  
Wine must be certified by the Wine & Spirits Board as **Merlot** ( i.e. 85% minimum Merlot) with residual sugar not more than 5 g/l.
- 4.2 Wines entered must be bottled, labelled and finally certified. (No tank samples will be accepted)
- 4.3 Where two consecutive bottles of wine are found to be corked or revealing any unacceptable wine characteristics, the entry will be disqualified.
- 4.4 There is no restriction on the number of wines a producer may enter. However, if a wine is marketed under different labels, it may only be entered once, i.e. under one of those labels.
- 4.5 Any vintage may be entered.

### 5. DELIVERY OF WINES

- 5.1 **Six (6) bottles (750 ml each) must be delivered between 09:00 and 16:00 on Monday 11 May 2026:**  
**Laffort SA  
32 Zandwijk Park  
Suider Paarl  
(Map enclosed)**  
**Please adhere to this date & time.**
- 5.2 Each case should be clearly marked:  
Name of producer  
2026 Taransaud Merlot Top 10  
Name & vintage of wine  
(Use form enclosed)
- 5.3 Your delivery note, completed in duplicate, must accompany your delivery. (A signed copy will be returned to you to acknowledge receipt of your wine.)

### 3. VEREISTES VIR DEELNAME

- 3.1 Produsente moet oor die volgende voorraad beskik:
- 'n Minimum van 180 bottels:  
*15 kiste (12 x 750ml) of  
30 kiste (6 x 750 ml)*

**NB: Hierdie voorraad moet beskikbaar wees ten tyde van die beoordeling tot en met die toekenningsfunksie en produsente wat nie by hierdie reël hou nie, sal gediskwalifiseer word. (Sien ook punt 8.2)**

- 3.2 Die organiseerders behou die reg voor om voorrade d.m.v. fisiese inspeksies te kontroleer en kan dokumentêre bewys vereis dat voorraad op hande wel te koop is.

### 4. WYN VIR BEOORDELING

- 4.1 **Merlot:**  
Wyn moet gesertifiseer wees deur die Wyn- en Spiritusraad as **Merlot** (m.a.w. 85% minimum Merlot) met 'n ressuiker van nie meer as 5 g/l.
- 4.2 Wyne wat ingeskryf word moet gebotteleer, geëtiketteer en finaal gesertifiseer wees. (Geen tenkvoorbeelde sal aanvaar word)
- 4.3 Wanneer twee agtereenvolgende bottels van 'n inskrywing met 'n kurkfout of enige onaanvaarbare wyneienskappe geïdentifiseer word, sal die inskrywing gediskwalifiseer word.
- 4.4 Daar is geen beperking op die aantal wyne wat 'n produsent mag inskryf nie maar indien 'n wyn onder verskillende etikette bemark word, mag dit slegs onder een van die etikette ingeskryf word
- 4.5 Enige oesjare mag ingeskryf word.

### 5. AFLEWERING VAN WYNE

- 5.1 **Ses (6) bottels (750 ml elk) moet afgelewer word tussen 09:00 en 16:00 op Maandag 11 Mei 2026:**  
**Laffort SA  
Zandwijkpark 32  
Suider-Paarl  
(Kaart ingesluit)**  
**Hou asseblief by hierdie datum & tyd.**
- 5.2 Elke kis moet duidelik gemerk word:  
Naam van produsent  
2026 Taransaud Merlot Top 10  
Naam en oesjaar van wyn  
(Gebruik vorm wat voorsien word)
- 5.3 Jul afleweringnota, in duplikaat, moet die aflewering vergesel. ('n Getekende kopie sal aan jul terugbesorg word as erkenning van ontvangs van jul wyn.)

5.4 If you make use of a courier for delivery, **please supply them with directions to Laffort.** A map is enclosed herewith.

5.5 Kindly note: It is not necessary to include the original entry forms.

## 6. JUDGING & RESULTS

6.1 The top 10 winners of the competition will be invited to the Awards Function on **Wednesday 17 June 2026.**

6.2 The results of the Taransaud Merlot Top 10 Competition will be final and binding and no *ex post facto* deliberation or correspondence will be entered into after the results have been announced.

## 7. TOP 10 WINNERS

7.1 A producer of a winning wine will receive a certificate.

7.2 A producer of a winning wine will receive 1 000 bottle stickers free of charge. (Kindly see 9.1 below)

7.3 Producers of the winning 10 Merlot wines will supply the Merlot Forum with **12 x 750 ml labelled bottles** that will be utilised for the Awards Function, the Merlot Technical Workshop as well as any marketing and promotional opportunities that may arise.

## 8. WINE OF THE MONTH

8.1 In terms of the partnership entered into with Wine of the Month, packs of the 10 Merlot winning wines will be marketed and sold by them.

8.2 Producers of winning wines are therefore required to adhere to the following:

- Ensure that the correct trade price is recorded on the entry form
- Ensure that 180 bottles of the winning wine are available to Wine of the Month
- Availability should be for a minimum period of 2 months from the date of announcement of the winners
- All wines provided to Wine of the Month should carry the Top 10 bottle sticker

### **NB PLEASE TAKE NOTE:**

- The above quantity forms part of the stock required under 3.1 and is not in addition
- Orders are subject to demand
- **Producers failing to deliver stock as set out above, will be disqualified and any awards forfeited**

5.4 Indien u van 'n koerier vir aflewering gebruik maak, **voorsien hulle asb. van aanwysings na Laffort.** 'n Kaart word hierby ingesluit.

5.5 Let wel: Dit is nie nodig om die oorspronklike inskrywingsvorme in te sluit nie.

## 6. BEOORDELING & UITSLAE

6.1 Die top 10 wenners van die kompetisie sal aange-kondig word by die Toekenningsfunksie op **Woensdag 17 Junie 2026.**

6.2 Die uitslag van die Taransaud Merlot Top 10 Kompetisie is finaal en bindend en geen *ex post facto* beredenerings of korrespondensie sal gevoer word nadat die uitslag bekend gemaak is nie.

## 7. TOP 10 WENNERS

7.1 'n Produsent van 'n wenwyn sal 'n sertifikaat ontvang.

7.2 'n Produsent van 'n wenwyn sal 1 000 gratis bottelplakkers ontvang (Sien asb. 9.1 hieronder)

7.3 Produsente van die 10 Merlot wenwyne moet die Merlot Forum voorsien van **12 x 750ml geëtiketteerde bottels** vir die Toekenningsfunksie, die Merlot Tegiese - Werkswinkel en enige ander bemarkings-en promosiegeleenthede wat mag voorkom

## 8. WINE OF THE MONTH

8.1 In terme van die ooreenkoms wat met Wine of the Month aangegaan is, sal hulle pakke met 10 Merlot wenwyne bemark en verkoop.

8.2 Daar word dus van produsente van wenwyne die volgende verwag:

- Maak seker dat die korrekte groothandelprys op die inskrywingsvorm verskyn
- Virseker dat 180 bottels van die wenwyn beskikbaar is vir Wine of the Month
- Beschikbaarheid sal geld vir 'n minimum tydperk van 2 maande vanaf die bekendmaking van die wenners
- Alle wyne vir Wine of the Month, moet die Top 10 bottelplakker vertoon

### **NB NEEM ASSEBLIEF KENNIS:**

- Bovermelde hoeveelheid vorm deel van die voorraad vereis onder 3.1 en is nie bykomend nie
- Bestellings sal onderhewig wees aan vraag
- **Produsente wat versuim om voorraad te lewer soos hierbo uiteengesit, sal gediskwalifiseer word en enige toekennings sal verbeur word**

## **9. BOTTLE STICKERS**

- 9.1 Additional bottle stickers, over and above the free 1500 (see 7.2), can be ordered from the office on an order form supplied for this purpose.
- 9.2 The additional bottle stickers will be charged at 50c per sticker (VAT incl) and will be payable on receipt of invoice.
- 9.3 Bottle stickers will be supplied in rolls of 500 stickers per roll and orders should be rounded off accordingly.

## **10. GENERAL**

- 10.1 All information will be treated as highly confidential.
- 10.2 The Management Committee of the Merlot Forum, sponsors, and organisers of this competition shall not be responsible in any way for fruitless expenditure, loss or damage of whatever nature which may occur as a result of a participant's entry.
- 10.3 Producers of winning wines must make themselves available for any possible marketing opportunities that may arise.
- 10.4 A participant may obtain his/her results after the Awards Function by sending an e-mail to [merlot@hallomerlot.co.za](mailto:merlot@hallomerlot.co.za).

## **9. BOTTELPLAKKERS**

- 9.1 Ekstra bottelplakkers, bo en behalwe die gratis 1500 (sien 7.2), kan van die kantoor bestel word op 'n bestelvorm wat vir hierdie doel voorsien sal word.
- 9.2 Die bykomende bottelplakkers sal beskikbaar wees teen 50c stuk (BTW ing.) en is betaalbaar by ontvangs van faktuur.
- 9.3 Bottelplakkers sal voorsien word in rolle van 500 plakkers per rol en bestellings moet dien-ooreenkomstig afgerond word.

## **10. ALGEMEEN**

- 10.1 Alle inligting sal streng vertroulik hanteer word.
- 10.2 Die Bestuur van die Merlot Forum, borge, en organiseerders van hierdie kompetisie sal op geen wyse aanspreeklik wees vir enige vrugtelose uitgawes, verlies of skade wat mag voortspruit uit 'n deelnemer se deelname aan hierdie kompetisie nie.
- 10.3 Produsente van wenwyne moet beskikbaar wees vir enige bemerkingsgeleenthede wat mag voorkom.
- 10.4 'n Produsent kan sy/haar uitslae aanvra na afloop van die Toekenningsfunksie deur 'n e-pos na [merlot@hallomerlot.co.za](mailto:merlot@hallomerlot.co.za) te stuur