

## Vergelegen named best winery on the African continent

The 2019 World's Best Vineyard competition has named Vergelegen Wine Estate in Somerset West the best winery in Africa.

The voting panel analysed 1,500 wineries from 17 countries. Zuccardi Valle de Uco in Argentina was named top estate in the world



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The World's Best Vineyard 2019 list has been established to raise the profile of wine tourism, and to encourage visitors to explore more of the world's best wineries, both traditional and emerging producers.

"We are delighted by this award," said Don Tooth, Vergelegen CEO. "The Vergelegen team is committed to building South Africa's reputation as a producer of world-class wines and this win is an acknowledgement of that passion.

"Tourism is a vital part of our economy, outperforming many key industries in job creation, so this is not only a proud moment for Vergelegen, but for the South African wine and tourism sectors overall."

eager to sample the best of the Western Cape and South African in one easy-to-reach destination. The estate welcomes on average, 100,000 visitors annually, half of which are beyond South Africa's borders.

"We have hosted world leaders and members of royal families from several countries, as well as members of the public from all continents," said Tooth. "They have all been united by their passion for Vergelegen. With the World's Best Vineyard award, we look forward to introducing this renowned estate to many new fans."

Vergelegen's previous accolades include the International Best of Wine Tourism, Cape Winelands, awarded in 2016 for an unprecedented fifth time. The estate was also the first Biodiversity and Wine Initiative Champion, in 2005.

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