

# INDEPENDENT RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT

D6, WSET Level 4 Diploma in Wines



## Assignment 1: January 2022 submission – South Africa

### Context

Although wine has been produced there since the 17th century, the modern South African wine industry is in effect only 30 years old. Since 1994 there has been a transformation in wine production and the industry as a whole. Two notable, yet contrasting, regions that have emerged are Elgin and Swartland.

[See below for required sections and allocation of marks]

### Instructions for candidates

- Assignments must adhere to the word count of 3,000 words. A tolerance of 10% will be allowed which means the research assignment should be no fewer than 2,700 words and no longer than 3,300 words in length. The word count excludes references, bibliography, appendices, diagrams or tables.
- Candidates must include a bibliography showing the sources used to research the topic.
- Candidates are reminded of the need to draw on a range of sources in their assignment and that it will be necessary to read around the subject matter. It will not be sufficient to rely solely on the Diploma materials. There should be clear evidence of critical analysis of the source material and well-reasoned personal commentary, together with relevant examples to support the points made.
- There are 100 marks available, of which 15 are allocated to presentation (spelling, grammar, legibility, bibliography and referencing) and answer structure/style (coherence, flair, fluency and use of examples). Footnotes, references and appendices must be used correctly. Candidates are advised to read the *D6 Independent Research Guidelines* before starting their research.
- Candidates must address all required sections and gain a minimum overall mark of 55% to qualify for a pass grade.

### Required sections and allocation of marks

Candidates must address the following required sections:

- 1) Give a brief overview of the South African wine industry up to 1994. (15% weighting)
- 2) Discuss the emergence of Elgin and Swartland in recent years, comparing their positions within the South African wine industry. Make particular reference to developments in grape growing and winemaking practices in these two regions. (50% weighting)
- 3) In your opinion, what does the future hold for the wine industries in Elgin and Swartland? (20% weighting)

15% weighting is allocated to presentation and structure, as outlined in Instructions for candidates above.

# INDEPENDENT RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT

D6, WSET Level 4 Diploma in Wines



## Assignment 1: July 2022 submission – Sustainability

### Context

Sustainability is a subject that has wide-reaching implications for all businesses. Within the wine industry, environmental sustainability concerns the conservation of natural resources, whereas social sustainability pertains to the impact of wine businesses on people and their wellbeing. Wine businesses need to consider how any changes will impact their economic sustainability, including the attractiveness of the product and its price.

[See below for required sections and allocation of marks]

### Instructions for candidates

- Assignments must adhere to the word count of 3,000 words. A tolerance of 10% will be allowed which means the research assignment should be no fewer than 2,700 words and no longer than 3,300 words in length. The word count excludes references, bibliography, appendices, diagrams or tables.
- Candidates must include a bibliography showing the sources used to research the topic.
- Candidates are reminded of the need to draw on a range of sources in their assignment and that it will be necessary to read around the subject matter. It will not be sufficient to rely solely on the Diploma materials. There should be clear evidence of critical analysis of the source material and well-reasoned personal commentary, together with relevant examples to support the points made.
- There are 100 marks available, of which 15 are allocated to presentation (spelling, grammar, legibility, bibliography and referencing) and answer structure/style (coherence, flair, fluency and use of examples). Footnotes, references and appendices must be used correctly. Candidates are advised to read the *D6 Independent Research Guidelines* before starting their research.
- Candidates must address all required sections and gain a minimum overall mark of 55% to qualify for a pass grade.

### Required sections and allocation of marks

Candidates must address the following required sections:

- 1) How can environmental sustainability in a winery be improved in relation to water and energy use? Illustrate your answer using examples from around the world. (40% weighting)
- 2) How can a wine producer improve their social sustainability through their employee relationships? (20% weighting)
- 3) In your opinion, does sustainability benefit the consumer, and to what extent does it influence their behaviour? (25% weighting)

15% weighting is allocated to presentation and structure, as outlined in Instructions for candidates above.