

D E L A I R E
G R A F F
E S T A T E

BOTANICAL PARADISE

A garden that dares to be different

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To encourage biodiversity, over 350 indigenous plants and other imported, non-invasive species nestle amongst art, sculpture, rippling water features and reflective pools that work in harmony to create the ultimate tranquil garden setting.





The Estate gardens have been designed and masterfully landscaped by celebrity horticultalist Keith Kirsten. Kirsten's expansive knowledge of African flora has enabled him to create an uncompromisingly spectacular display that blooms 365 days a year.

There is something special about Kirsten, South Africa's favourite gardener. He exudes energy, style, charisma and has an electrifying personality that sends you into a whole new world converting possibility and fantasy into reality. One of South Africa's leading horticulturists, Kirsten's inimitable style extends from his uncompromised intrinsic values and impeccable work ethic through to his office, home and, of course, garden.

The Graff Legacy lives on through Delaire Graff Estate at the pinnacle of the Helshoogte Pass in the Cape winelands. Kirsten, multi gold-medal finalist at the Chelsea Flower Show, and his designer Raymond Hudson have created a contemporary landscape conceived out of a need to be daring and different, designed to please the senses and compliment the natural biodiversity.

It was decided to move away from the traditional "vines and roses" theme that so often characterise the landscaping of wine farms and chose to build upon our South African heritage. The result is a garden which is an eclectic mix of indigenous and naturalised exotic plants and innovative design inspired by the term "Genius Loci" which means 'Spirit of the place'. The planting scheme integrates seamlessly with the natural surroundings and compliments the contemporary architecture.

Over 350 new and mainly indigenous plants, shrubs and trees have been planted, include 'gems' such as Agapanthus Double Diamond, Agapanthus Amethyst, Euphorbia, Diamond frost, Coleus, Ruby Tuesday, Erythrina (Coral tree) as well as a variety of Fynbos with Sapphire blue flowers which contrast with the Amber shades of Hibiscus, African Beauty, Rosa 'Crepescule', Rose 'Flowercarpet Amber', Strelitzia 'Mandela's Gold' and Acorus, Golden Delight.



The various Aloe species, Encephalartos (Cycads), Erythrinias and Cussonias accentuate the structural and sculptural form of the garden. Curved hedges of Camellia and Coffee Jasmine provide secluded hideaways and screening for the privacy of the individual suites. This garden invites you to take leisurely walks along the many secluded and interlinking pathways and to admire the vistas through the trees over Stellenbosch.

Green gastronomy lies at the very heart of our cuisine, where fresh flavours come from the skill of our chefs and carefully selected produce. Home-grown fruits, vegetables and herbs are picked straight from the Estate's greenhouse and gardens for our restaurants. We give back to the earth thanks to our wormery, which generates organic fertiliser to help meet the needs of the Estate.

Water features, Cape Dutch-inspired rills and reflective pools add a sense of peace and tranquility to the dramatic garden setting and provide a living backdrop to display specially commissioned South African sculptures, including numerous regal works by Deborah Bell, Dylan Lewis, Anton Smit and Lionel Smit.

The imposing amphitheatre entrance and scenic driveway have become renowned attractions and visitors to Delaire Graff Restaurant and our Wine Lounge experience breathtaking views of the Simonsberg and Groot Drakenstein Mountains while enjoying beautiful cuisine and award winning wines. The Lodges & Spa offer unrivalled luxury and hospitality while scented hedges of camellia and swathes of coffee jasmine provide privacy for the luxury lodges.

Delaire Graff Lodges & Spa received the 2015 Garden Trophy Rozès from acclaimed Relais & Chateaux at their annual conference in Paris. For 25 years, the trophies have celebrated outstanding properties which have captivated guests through exceptional contribution to the renown of Relais & Chateaux's 'art de vivre'. The Garden Trophy rewards exceptionally well kept gardens which show creativity and originality with a remarkable conceptual foundation.