

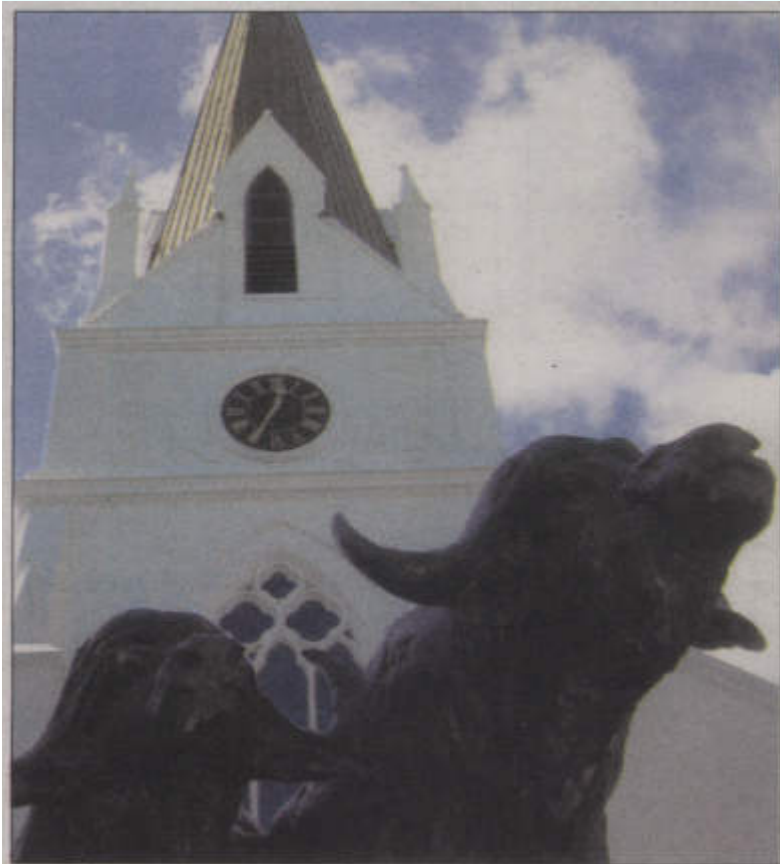
Beat the winter blues in blissful Stellenbosch

ESCAPE the winter blues with fine wine and fabulous food. Stellenbosch is an idyllic location for a winter getaway and the wide range of restaurants and wineries will please nearly any palate. Enjoy the serenity of Sundays in Stellenbosch while exploring the heart of the Cape winelands.

Close to 60 wineries on the Stellenbosch American Express® Wine Routes are currently open on Sundays and offer child-friendly experiences to ensure entertainment for the whole family. In terms of culinary offerings, visitors can choose between fine dining establishments, deli-style eateries, bistros, braai restaurants and menus ranging from authentic South African dishes to classic French cuisine. Located in the centre of town, Wijnhuis restaurant has become a landmark where guests can sample more than 350 wines from predominantly local producers. The wine list is focused on boutique wineries in the Stellenbosch region, but also includes some of the bigger, iconic Stellenbosch wines while the Mediterranean-inspired menu features only fresh local produce.

Golfer Ernie Els's The Big Easy is located in Dorp Street, the second-oldest road in the country, this restaurant is well-worth a visit, not only for its exquisite food and fabulous wines, but also for its beautiful architecture. The beautifully renovated 16th-century Cape Dutch building La Gratitude is a perfect showcase of historical architecture.

Sundays are perfect for exploring Stellenbosch on foot and the Stellenbosch Tourism office is the ideal point to start your journey. Highly experienced guides offer daily accompanied walks through the town centre. Learn about the rich cultural diversity



BRONZE LIFE: Buffalos by Dylan Lewis at the Moederkerk.

of the town, examine its beautiful architecture and browse through art galleries and craft shops. Some must-see landmarks include Oom Samie se Winkel, a general dealer that has been operating for more than 150 years and the Village Museum. Until October, visitors will also be able to view the 24 bronze casts by internationally renowned sculptor Dylan Lewis, which are displayed throughout the town in an open-air exhibition.

For more energetic and adventur-

ous visitors, Stellenbosch offers a range of outdoor activities, including scenic walks, hiking trails, mountain climbing, quad biking, beautiful jogging and cycling routes, exceptional golf courses and horse-back riding.

Visit www.wineroute.co.za or call 021 886 4310. Visit the Stellenbosch Tourism office in Market Street to collect a handy restaurant map or pick up the Stellenbosch Children's Route map for a listing of child-friendly activities, restaurants and wine farms.

