EXPLORING BABYLONSTOREN



BABYLONSTOREN

1100

THE EXPERIENCE

Set in the lowlands of the Simonsberg Mountains in the Franschhoek wine valley, Babylonstoren is one of South Africa's oldest Cape Dutch farms. Maintaining its heritage, it continues to produce a variety of fruits and vegetables, but its principles have evolved.

With an ethos of conservation and sustainability, the property has re-introduced endemic plantlife, including the crops it produces and the flora surrounding the property. This, in turn, has welcomed back the wildlife that once thrived here.

Beyond the soil and toil, this flourishing oasis has established itself as a place of rejuvenation and tranquility, a nurturing haven in which to replenish, relax and indulge. Farm-to-table dining deliciously nourishes from within and an indulgent spa pampers and heals.

Welcome to Babylonstoren - where time stands still.





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A WORKING FARM

With Simonsberg mountain standing as an omnipresent sentinel, Babylonstern is a verdant oasis of working gardens, lakes, water features and secluded lawns.

Chefs harvest fresh fruit and vegetables for use in the property's three restaurants, staff tend crops, and guests are free to wander as they please, exploring the avenues of trees, winding pathways and plantations.

The gardens are divided by crop. You are invited to peruse the herb and spice garden, the working olive grove – from which Babylonstoren presses its own extra-virgin olive oil – the state-of-the-art winery and vineyard and the tea plantation.

A short walk from the main property, a dam entices you with its calm waters, and you are able to enjoy canoing or cast a line for a spot of catch-and-release bass fishing.

Farm staff and chefs are more than willing to share their knowledge of Babylonstoren's diverse flora, and guided daily walks provide the opportunity to quiz them further and learn about the plants, their properties and uses.

Visitors can also explore the region and partake in several creative activities utilizing the farm's produce.

GARDEN ACTIVITIES:

- Guided garden tour exploring the range of produce grown
- 'Special Collection' tour of succulent & indigenous plants - daily, 11:30am
- Farm walk to explore the grounds, watch the ducks being released for the day & summit the nearby kopje for panoramic views - daily, 8am
- House of Shadows tour, taking in seasonal blooms monthly
- Essential Oils tour of the lavender & rosemary fields before exploring the aromas created in the scent room
- Vineyard & Cellar tour with complimentary charcuterie board daily, 10am, 3pm & 4pm
- Daily bread-making workshops
- Mountain biking (each residence is provided with bicycles for use at will)

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- RESTAURANTS

BABEL

Housed in the old cow shed, Babel Restaurant is a wonderful mix of Cape Dutch architecture and contemporary glass walls that makes for a simple, chic environment in which to try a selection of tasty yet often unconventional combinations. Babel embodies a farmto-fork philosophy, serving food that is seasonal and that reflects Babylonstoren's "pick, clean and serve" approach.

- Available to guests & public
- Breakfast: Mon Sun, 8am–10am (Last order 9:30)
- Lunch: Wed-Sun, 12:30pm-3:30pm (Last order 3pm)
- Dinner: Mon-Sun, 6pm–9pm (Last order 8:30pm)

GREENHOUSE RESTAURANT

At the rear of the garden, tucked away between majestic oak trees, the Greenhouse offers a wonderful refreshment station to guests after a walk through the garden. All food is served picnic-style, highlighting fresh and seasonal ingredients inspired by the garden. Freshly-baked scones with seasonal preserves are a favorite of guests, best enjoyed with a spot of farm-grown honeybush tea.

• Open daily from 9am – 5pm

OLD BAKERY

By day, the Old Bakery supplies Babylonstoren's farm shop and restaurants with freshly-baked breads but by night, this space is transformed into a true celebration of La Dolce Vita. Scrumptious Italian-inspired meals are served, a four-course set menu commencing with an antipasti and salad offering, homemade pasta followed by authentic wood-fired pizza, to be enjoyed to your heart's content. The meal is completed with a delicious dolce and coffee.

• Dinner: Mon & Fri, 6pm–9pm (Last order 8:30pm)

On Wednesdays and Sundays, the Old Bakery presents an authentic celebration of the beloved South African braai. Skilled braai masters grill every cut to perfection while guests enjoy live accordion tunes and fine wine.

These Carnivore Evenings are lively and cheerful and enjoyed at long communal tables laden with the best meat in all forms and flavors. The hero ingredient is the farmreared Chianina – fed entirely on a grass diet and reared with no hormones or antibiotics. This age-old Italian breed is renowned for its natural marbling, and is aged between 28 and 42 days in the property's own Himalayan salt room.



- ACCOMMODATION

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FYNBOS COTTAGES

At Fynbos Cottages guests can fully immerse themselves in the beauty of the natural plant habitat of the Western Cape's mountains. The six individual cottages are newly built in the Cape Dutch style and adjoin vineyards and orchards overlooking the dam. One- and two-bedroom cottages are available, accommodating two or four people respectively.

- 10-min walk from reception
- Each cottage is provided with a golf cart & bicycles
- The cottages have a communal pool & bar area

GARDEN COTTAGES

Set adjacent to a 8.5-acre (3.5ha) cultivated fruit and vegetable garden, the cottages are characterized by thick whitewashed walls, elegant gables and robust fireplaces that emulate an authentic farm-stay experience. The interiors take on an altogether contemporary feel when paired with the modern lines of furniture by international design brands such as Kartell, Magis, Philippe Starck and the Bourellec Bros. babylonstoren offers:

- 6 one-bedroom suites
- 3 one-bedroom cottages
- 4 two-bedroomed cottages

FARMHOUSE SUITE

Set beneath a copse of trees, the Farmhouse combines authentic architecture with modern design: refined and characterful. The loft above it has become one of the most iconic honeymoon suites in Africa.

- 8 rooms & 1 romantic loft room max. 18 guests
- Private spa & pool facilities

FYNBOS FAMILY HOUSE

The Fynbos Family House is an elegant, exclusive-use home in Cape Dutch style, designed to offer families and friends an intimate shared space and the relaxed freedom to tailor their days any way they choose.

- 5 en-suite rooms
- Private lunch by Babylonstoren chef available

MANOR HOUSE

The Cape Dutch Manor House dates back to 1777, providing five bedrooms accommodating ten guests. The interior has been beautifully restored to its former glory, but with a definite contemporary touch.

- 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms
- Private kitchen & fully-stocked larder

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