

TIME OUT
Ladies Club

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FEBRUARY 2013

NEWSLETTER

PADSTALLETJIES OF THE R27



Thirty five of us went on a trip along the West Coast to discover the Padstalletjies. Our first stop was an all-time favorite—The Vyge Valley Farm stall and I even spotted one lady buying Pumpkin Fritters! Normally it's their bread that is an all-time favorite. Next stop was the Mondvol padstalletjie along the Trekoskraal road. Here **Alex and Charmaine** are creating magic with their food. With the view of the sea in the background their outside patio was a welcome relief from the heat for our cheese tasting, prior to our walk-about the farm where the goats and cows could be viewed. **Alta Nel** is passionate about her cheese and a favorite was the Gruyere which her husband had made over the weekend (this is made with 60 litres of milk)! A delicious Mediterranean feast was shared - superb wooden boards loaded to the hilt with delicious meats; smoked chicken; pesto; olives; ciabattas. On the way home we stopped in at the Weskusspens where one lady even found a baking dish for her PATATS! "A day with a difference" as one of the ladies said.

THURSDAY
28TH
FEBRUARY

Coach leaves
Tableview
at 08h45
&
Constantia at
09h30

BOOK BY
FRIDAY 15TH
& Pay By
FRIDAY 22ND
FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY IN ELGIN



There is a new restaurant on the Oak Valley Estate in Grabouw. Oak Valley famed for their flower farm has expanded and built this fabulous new restaurant in the Manor House on the farm. Recently opened The Pool Room has received very good reviews on Trip Advisor.

"A beautiful country house has opened their gracious Poolhouse , converting it into a light lunch venue. Home reared farm meats , freshly baked breads with focus on home grown/made veggies and sauces. Tasty simple menu with adult food and portions just right"

We start our morning off at the **Almenkerk Wine Estate**. This is a relatively new estate in the Elgin area. It will be harvest day at the estate. They will be offering a complimentary tasting of their wines & if that is not for you, you can take a look at their staff busy in the cellar with the harvest. (Not often that you get chance to do this!) After Almenkerk there will be a short stop at Peregrine Farm Stall, followed by lunch at The Pool Room (no swimming please!)

COST for the day is R340 per person and includes your transport and a ONE COURSE LUNCH.

Starters are available between R55 and R85, whilst desserts are available between R35 and R85.

FOOTNOTE

Those of you who came on our previous tour to the Oak Valley farm will remember it well. Their prestigious set-up has gained them orders from many retailers. I did approach them for another tour of their growing facilities. They wanted to charge us R100 each for this. After persuasion they reduced it to R50 each. I still felt this to be a bit much to expect you to pay, however, I am happy to say that the Pool Room has a deli shop where you can buy fresh flowers!

THURSDAY
28TH
MARCH

THE 'NEW' STARK CONDE ESTATE IN STELLENBOSCH

A family member of ours went to this new estate in the December holidays and phoned me to say "You HAVE TO take your ladies to this one!" So we had to investigate. What we found is a little piece of paradise on the road to Jonkershoek. The EAT OUT magazine reviewed it as something 'out of a fairy tale'. Come and see for yourself!



This estate is owned by Hans Schroder who purchased the farm in 1998, and it was then that he appointed Neil Ellis to make the wines. The unique wine tasting room is on an island in the middle of the dam! Their wines are hand-crafted using traditional methods. The restaurant is named **The Postcard Café** because the views are like something on a postcard. It is set alongside the dam and is a perfect setting for a lunch in March when the weather can still be hot. 'Postcard Cafe offers simple good food and wine in a spectacular natural setting'

World wide prices are on "the up" again

I am pretty sure there isn't one of you who have not found prices rising on a daily basis. This coupled with our fuel increases, is leaving everyone somewhat deflated. We have always endeavored to bring you an affordable day out. Time to be with friends; discover new & exciting places; and traveling safely to our destination has always been our top priority. Throughout 2012 we had to deal with ever increasing food prices, which is directly affected by transport costs and wage demands. In an effort to maintain the outing price around R350 maximum, we had to, in some instances, reduce the lunch to a one course with the dessert being for your own account.



Most Companies in South Africa also increase their prices on an annual basis; Hylton Ross (our transporter) being one such company. So, we have this to contend with in 2013 as well. I believe we will see a fuel surcharge being added this year and will have to deal with this when it arises. (some other transporters are already doing this!).

We still want to provide an affordable, above average, day out and one way of ensuring this is to continue by offering a MAIN COURSE only. From this month you will find this quoted in the pricing. **Should you wish to order a starter or dessert, the choice will be yours, and you will pay for this with your drinks!**

Where we are able to get a better meal price this will be reflected in a reduced outing price.



HAPPINESS IS SEEING EVERYONE AFTER THE DECEMBER HOLIDAYS!