The South African wine industry has a rich history that reaches back in excess of 300 years. This tour offers an opportunity for a small insight into two of its well-known stalwarts.

The Bergkelder (“Cellar in the Mountain”) is tucked under the steep slopes of the historic Papegaaiberg. The name refers to clay pigeons (‘papegaai’ in Dutch), which were shot in commemoration of the birthday of Governor Simon van der Stel, in the late 1700s. A short walk along the banks of the Plankenburg River and across a footbridge flanked by lush gardens, takes you to the entrance of this unique underground bottle-maturation cellar – the first of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere. Here, thousands of bottles of wine mature under the serene guard of old French Oak maturation casks bearing carvings of famous Cape wine landmarks and events.

Van Ryn’s began in 1845 in Cape Town. The current distillery where the brandies are made was established in 1905, built from rocks from the nearby Eerste (‘First’) River. The distillery tour includes a guided walk through the working brandy distillery, a demonstration of the age-old art of coopering and a whiff of the Angel’s Share in the Van Ryn maturation cellar. Van Ryn brandies have won many accolades and awards, including several International Gold Awards.
1. Overview

- **Tour:** Bergkelder and Van Ryn Distillery.
- **Date:** 30 October 2014.
- **Departure:** 09:00 SHARP from Lord Charles Hotel Foyer.
- **Cost:** R 350-00 (incl. VAT) per person, payable in advance upon registration
- **Lunch is NOT included.** Delegates will have the option to return to the hotel or enjoy lunch at the picturesque Lanzerac Wine Estate at own cost.
- **Website:**
  - Bergkelder: [www.distell.co.za](http://www.distell.co.za)
  - Van Ryn Distillery: [www.vanryn.co.za](http://www.vanryn.co.za)
  - Lanzerac Wine Estate: [www.lanzerac.co.za](http://www.lanzerac.co.za)
- **Notes:** Only 25 places are available

2. The Tour at a Glance

- **09:00** Depart from Lord Charles Hotel Foyer.
- **09:30** Tour of Bergkelder (including tasting).
- **~10:30** Tour of Van Ryn Cellar (including tasting).
- **13:00** Lunch at Lanzerac Wine Estate.
- **15:00** Return to Hotel.

3. Copyright

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