

vilafonté

Curriculum Vitae

Michael S. Ratcliffe

Email: mike@vilafonte.com

| | |
|--------|--|
| 1991 | Engineer on the South African Navy Flagship, SAS Drakensberg. |
| 1992-5 | Bachelor of Economics. Major subjects: Economics and Industrial Psychology. University of Stellenbosch. |
| 1994 | Cape Wine Academy graduate |
| 1996 | Graduated as International Yachtmaster (offshore) |
| 1999 | Post-Graduate Diploma in Wine Business, University of Adelaide, Australia |
| 1999- | Managing Director of Warwick Wine Estate |
| 2002 | Managing Partner Vilafonté Vineyards |

- Managing Director of Warwick Wine Estate, Stellenbosch www.warwickwine.com
- Managing Director and partner in Vilafonté Vineyards – the first & only South African/American luxury winemaking joint venture. www.vilafonte.com
- Former Deputy Chairman of the South African Wine Industry Trust. SAWIT www.sawit.co.za
- President of the South Africa/USA Wine Foundation – a non-profit educational foundation based in Washington DC.
- Former Director and EXCO member on the board of WOSA (Wines of South Africa) www.wosa.co.za
- Former Director on the board of BUSCO, the business arm of the Wine Industry Trust. (SAWIT)
- Founder member of the Marketing Committee of the *Stellenbosch Wine Routes*
- Founder and co-ordinator of *Rootstock*, an active industry group for young people in the wine industry active since March 1999 with 300 active members.
- Founder member of the *Cape Blend* committee of the Pinotage Association
- Founder member and convener of the Veritas Cabernet Franc Working group.
- Former marketing lecturer in *Wine Business* and *Wine Tourism* for the Cape Wine Academy and the University of Cape Town UCT Graduate School of Business.
- Convenor of the ‘Simonsberg’ Appellation activities of the Stellenbosch Wine Route.
- Member of the Jury of the OIV ‘Great International Wine awards’, *Mundus Vini*, Pfalz, Germany. 2001-5

vilafonté

"The Ratcliffe family have owned the magnificent Warwick Estate in Stellenbosch since 1964. Stan & Norma Ratcliffe have been successfully running the Estate since this time. Mike Ratcliffe, the next generation at Warwick, took over the reigns at the end of 1999 and has been Managing Director ever since. Mike has a background in business studies and completed his formal education with a graduate diploma in Wine Marketing from the University of Adelaide in Australia. Mike was the first non-Australian student to ever receive this qualification. Warwick has become a very international winery in the past decade and Mike has been instrumental in upholding the family philosophy of 'Quality without compromise'. This philosophy is a central pillar on which the success of Warwick has been built."