



SANKARA NAIROBI



SANKARA'S THE GALLERY RECEIVES 'WINE SPECTATOR AWARD OF EXCELLENCE'



September 2011 - Wine appreciation is a growing trend in Nairobi culture. In keeping with this, the stylish Gallery at Sankara Nairobi offers the finest in food and wine with its extensive wine menu. Reaffirming their commitment to wine distinction, Sankara Nairobi's bar The Gallery has just been awarded the illustrious *Wine Spectator Award of Excellence 2011*.

The annual Wine Spectator Restaurant Wine List Awards recognise restaurants and bars across the world whose wine list offer appealing selections, are appropriate for their concept and entice a wide range of wine lovers. Based in the USA, the Wine Spectator is the most authoritative magazine and guide to wine and wine culture globally. This is the first time a restaurant or bar in Eastern Africa has been awarded the title.

At The Gallery, two custom built wine walls housing 1000 bottles and an elegant bar made of Onyx set the tone for a distinctive experience. The ethos behind The Gallery is purely good drinking – to showcase the best in wine and to capture the delight of every novice, gourmand and connoisseur alike.

With over 200 different wine labels the emphasis in creating such a wine list was to ensure exceptional quality, authenticity and value. Most of the wines available at The Gallery are found only at Sankara Nairobi. Whilst most of the appellations are South African, wines from other regions of the world including France, Italy, Australia and New Zealand are represented. There is an extensive selection of red blends, champagnes, grappa as well as unique varietals such as the organic Mountain Oaks Chardonnay. In putting this list together, Sankara partnered with famed winemaker George Dalla Cia whose accolades amongst others include 'producer of the best red in the world 2006' and pioneering the first Bordeaux- style blend - the iconic Rubicon in South Africa.

One of the hallmarks of Sankara Nairobi's Gallery is the accessibility and friendly approach to wine culture. The wine-by-glass menu offers close to 20 different options of superior wines that are well priced from Ksh300 upwards. The goal was to give people the opportunity to try alternative wines and to encounter wine culture in a different, yet more approachable manner. Previous wine experiences include the popular 'Burgers and Burgandy' that offered guests the pairing of full bodied Burgundian style wines with three burgers. Likewise the 'for the love of wine' campaign over Valentine's let patrons discover grape varietals in a memorable manner likening them to romantic personalities, it was an instant hit. The wine-by-glass menu changes and evolves frequently so that every visit to the wine bar offers something new and unexpected.



The Wine Spectator Restaurant Wine List Awards are highly competitive with over 5000 submissions every year. To qualify for the prestigious listing entrants must submit their complete and current wine list. It must include vintages, appellations for every section. Detailed information on the wine producer are also mandatory, likewise information on the Wine Director or the persona behind the wine list as well as the complimentary food menu.

This tops off an already exciting year for Sankara Nairobi (that turns one in August) who were also awarded the Conde Nast Traveller Hot List 2011 recognition and the Wallpaper Best Business Hotels 2010 listing.

So, what more can patrons expect from Sankara in the next months... lookout for their acclaimed South African Sommelier from September onwards.

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About Sankara Nairobi

Created and Managed by Sankara Hotels & Resorts, the 156 room Sankara Nairobi represents a modern generation of urban hotels. Recognising the needs of the modern traveller, Sankara balances contemporary design, incorporating the latest facilities and technologies with local influences creating a definitive 'sense of place'. While guest roo