

BREAKFAST MENU

served from 07:00 to 10:30 daily



CONTINENTAL BUFFET

R98

Selection of fresh fruit juices

Yoghurts - Bulgarian, cape fruit and strawberry

Assorted cereals and homemade muesli with assorted seeds, goji and cranberries

Freshly sliced fruits in season

Stewed mixed fruit and mixed berry compote

Variety of local Cape cheeses

A selection of charcuterie

Smoked salmon and peppered mackerel

Daily baked pastries and breads, croissants, muffins and scones

Homemade baked breads, seed loaf and 100% rye

Selection of jams, pickles and preserves

HOT BREAKFAST

R98

2Eggs - fried, scrambled, poached or boiled

Grilled back bacon, pork and beef sausages

Poached haddock

Baked beans and grilled tomato

Inclusive of white or brown toast

Juice, tea and coffee

COMBO BREAKFAST

R155

Your choice of the continental cold buffet plus your choice of hot breakfast

SIGNATURE BREAKFAST

City of Oaks - R42

Grilled back bacon, two eggs scrambled with your choice of white, brown or toasted homemade seed loaf

Three Egg Omelettes

Back bacon, mushrooms, tomato and Hickory ham - R75

or

Franschhoek smoked salmon trout, rocket and low fat cream cheese - R78

Classic Eggs Benedict - R68

Toasted English muffin, grilled Hickory ham, poached eggs and Hollandaise sauce

French Toast - R49

Two slices of white or brown bread with grilled back bacon and maple syrup

Belgian Waffle - R48

Vanilla ice cream, mixed berry compote or grilled banana and organic honey

SMOOTHIES

Berry Booster - R42

Mixed berries, toasted homemade muesli, organic honey and Bulgarian yoghurt

Island Sun - R42

Mango, coconut milk, organic honey and Bulgarian yoghurt

Speciality coffees and teas will be charged separately

Outer Verf
RESTAURANT

THE STORY OF A CHURCH AND A HOTEL

While you enjoy your breakfast, you may be interested to know that you are sitting in much the same spot as the congregation of South Africa's first church, built in 1687 - a thatch-roofed building of "22 x 40 Rhenish feet" with a bell tower, visible in the earliest known sketch of Stellenbosch of 1710, before the Church and much of Stellenbosch was destroyed by fire.

Though attempts were made to rebuild it, a new site was chosen at the top of present-day Church Street, with much of the surviving building material absorbed into a new church begun in 1717. The 'old churchyard' (de Oude Werf) stood vacant for some 70 years, until church deacon Daniel van Ryneveld divided the site into lots for sale - an act of 'religious desecration' many believed doomed him to clatter through the old yard on horseback for eternity as Oude Werf's first legendary ghost.

Oude Werf's early history was soon forgotten however. In 1783, on deconsecrated ground, owner J B Hoffman is credited with the building of an elegant Cape Dutch gabled house. In 1802, it opened its doors as an inn. Despite the damage caused by another fire in 1803, proprietor Wolfram Hesse Kessel still ensured "amiable lodging for 3 Rix Dollars a day". "Excessive!" noted one guest, though admitting that its table always groaned with food. Later guests, like Governor Sir George Grey, accompanying Prince Albert on his travels in 1860 also praised the "generous victuals" dispensed by Wouter Wium and his wife Tant Betjie, who remains one of Oude Werf's most colourful figures.

Colourful guests there were too, including Karl Otto Hager, who would become South Africa's most prolific church architect. In 1841, still a poor painter, he gazed from the windows of the inn at the beautiful Cornelia and hatched a romantic plan. Convincing her father to be the subject of a portrait, the usually speedy Hager took no less than seven long sittings to capture the likeness of the man and eventually, the hand of Cornelia, who became his wife.

In the last few years of the 1800's, the Hotel (by then known as Wium's Inn, Arcadia and Harmonia) suffered another fire. It rose again however, this time in two-storey Georgian style as a 'parlour' boarding house for some of the first female students of the fledging university - the origin of Stellenbosch's first women's sorority house, Harmonie.

Gerhard Lubbe bought the Hotel in 1972 and began its extension and restoration, which in 1981 saw archaeological excavations that revealed the church's granite foundation, pillars that supported its roof, the likely position of the 'preekstoel' (pulpit) and early (disinterred) graves - some elements of which are still visible beneath the restaurant and in the ground floor room wing.

Today, Oude Werf is owned by the Petousis hotelier family and the late Kitty, whose Albertyn ancestors were some of the original church's first congregants. Much grown in the 21st Century to a luxury hotel, Oude Werf still preserves its 300 year history as a national heritage site and also as South Africa's oldest continuously-running hotel.

