



PROFILE OF ERWIN SCHNITZLER
MANAGING DIRECTOR

Brief Background:

Schnitzler, a German hotelier and restaurateur emigrated to South Africa six years ago. He had an 'African Dream' to semi-retire to South Africa. Here he had purchased a share of a beautiful Winelands hotel, which he imagined he would run in his spare time, concentrating his energies on Golf and relaxation. Six years later he is still as passionate as ever about hotels and can't seem to find the time for golf.

Career Highlights:

Having studied the History of Art, he decided that it would be more financially viable to begin a career in the Hospitality Industry. By his late 20's Schnitzler was Germany's youngest hotel General Manager, running a 480 bedroom property. In 1979 he owned his first restaurant and one year later achieved his first Michelin Star. Amongst his career highlights were two stars for another of his restaurants as well as consulting contracts with both Hilton and Four Seasons.

Schnitzler co-owned a gourmet circus that traveled the world as a traditional circus, featuring performers and artists, and included top quality dining for 500 people under the big top. The likes of Pavarotti were performers who featured along the way.

A lover of French and Italian wines, he wrote books and newspaper columns about the wines of these regions; this over a period of over ten years.

His most recent achievement has been taking the Mont Rochelle hotel from a simple 10 bedroom country hotel, to what is one of the Winelands top Five Star Boutique Hotels.

Motivation & Inspiration

Perfection is of the utmost of importance; however although German, he steers away from the formal Germanic style establishment. A passion for life, music, design and excellent cuisine must prevail, and all of this with a zest for life...the Italian way!

The Lighter Side of Life:

Schnitzler lives on Mont Rochelle in Franschhoek. A passion for food and world class wines keeps him exploring the Cape's finest dining venues.

Art and Interiors are an area, which provide great pleasure. And when he's not redecorating, you'll find him beside a pile of three or four different books and magazines, expanding his knowledge of the world and its cultures.