

Conservation goes hand in hand with sustainable farming practices:

'Conservation of the critical endangered Elim Fynbos is the cornerstone on which we have based our farming practices' -Geoff McIver

Lomond Wines, a member since 2005, is situated in the heart of the Walker Bay Fynbos Conservancy and is home to a wide diversity of endangered flora including Mountain & Elim Fynbos, Milkwood Forests and Wetlands.

Whilst the focus has always been on producing the highest quality wine based on the regions cool climate and diversity of soils, Lomond is also actively involved in the bigger conservation landscape.

Conservation Servitude:

In 2018, **Lomond Wines** was the first South African Wine Farm to enter into a Conservation Servitude with Fauna and Flora International to ensure the long-term preservation of the critically endangered Elim Ferricrete Fynbos and Overberg Sandstone Fynbos which occurs on the slopes of Ben Lomond. This includes ensuring the conservation of all natural biodiversity through proactive conservation management of the site and adjoining area.

This servitude forms a vital buffer area between the Flower Valley Conservation Trust and the Lomond vineyards – the vineyards were only planted on previously cultivated lands.

The creation of wildlife corridors had led to the increase of indigenous wildlife including the elusive Cape Leopard, our resident male Baharti has been photographed 100m away from the cellar, bat-eared foxes and numerous antelope.

Establishment of a Protected area:

Conservation cannot happen in isolation, fauna and flora including alien plant species and fires knows no boundaries. The establishment of the conservancy therefore provided a platform to look at the landscape as a collective and jointly manage the biodiversity of the area.

Conservancies are voluntary and there are no formal ties binding the landowner or the land into long-term conservation.

A Protected Environment ensures that key biodiversity areas are secured in perpetuity, despite future change of ownership of properties and thereby contributing to national conservation targets, and creating a formally recognised conservation area.

Lomond Wines is one of eight landowners who have signed their properties into a Protected Environment. Alongside the seven established private nature reserves within the region, this will create a protected area network of 12 500 hectares within the Walker Bay Fynbos Conservancy.

The proclamation of the statutory Protected Environment has resulted in an incredible conservation legacy for the region.

The Cape Floral Kingdom

The Cape Floral Kingdom, of which fynbos is the major component, is one of the 6 floral kingdoms on our planet and the only one found entirely in one country. *It is the most threatened kingdom in the world* and has been marked as one of South Africa's eight heritage sites. It is home to around 9000 species – so it has the highest concentration of plant species in the smallest area. The United Kingdom is home to only 1500 wildflower species.

