



KIEPERSOL BRAND STORY



OVERVIEW

Kiepersol is a food, wine and spirits destination based in East Texas.

FOOD

East Texas' finest steak and seafood restaurant is at the heart of Kiepersol. The restaurant seats 100 people and boasts a two-story wine cellar featuring wines from around the world to complement your elegant chop house meal.

WINE

Our passion is to share estate-grown artisan wines that are finely crafted to be comfortable to drink, pairing every day life with the abundance of the earth. We have a 12,000 case annual production from 63 acres including 16 varieties of white and red wine grapes.

SPIRITS

Kiepersol started distilling spirits in 2012 and now shares award-winning Texas-based Dirk's Vodka, Pierre's Rum and Jimmy's Straight Bourbon Whiskey. Tastings and tours of the distillery are available on-site.

SISTERS OF THE VINE

The Kiepersol destination is passionately run by sisters Marnelle and Velmay. Their father, Pierre de Wet, founded Kiepersol in 1998 and left an inspired legacy of wine, spirits and food with love and service at its core. Following in his "Farmers First" footsteps, Marnelle and Velmay bring love of the land and hard work to each Kiepersol endeavor.

Marnelle Durrett is our Proprietor and Founding Winemaker, shaping the taste and feel that is the heart of Kiepersol. If you've ever had the opportunity to be on a tour with Marnelle or have her as a featured speaker, you will recognize her as a teacher at heart, moving each person she touches with imagery from the wine farm that relates to daily life. Marnelle lives just south of Kiepersol with her husband, Jim, and two children.

Velmay Power brings her banking background and ground up integrity to the table in running the finances and systems analysis at Kiepersol. While behind the scenes most of the time, you can occasionally catch Velmay tasting her favorite wine on a Saturday while watching the kids enjoy the vineyard sandbox. She lives in Kiepersol Estates with her husband, Chris, and two children.

THE KIEPERSOL NAME

Kiepersol is the name of the small farm community where founder Pierre de Wet grew up in South Africa. The community was named after the Kiepersol tree whose story is legendary. British soldiers during the 1900 Boer War in South Africa were running from a lion through an open grass field toward a single-trunk tree shouting, "Kiepersol, Kiepersol, Kiepersol!". The Boers thus named the tree Kiepersol. Later they realized the soldiers were actually yelling, "We hope the tree will keep us all". The symbolism of this tree was adopted by Kiepersol as our namesake in hopes that everyone who visits can find that same type of comfort.

THE KIEPERSOL CREST STORY

The Kiepersol wine label prominently features a crest with the KE brand. The crest is the de Wet family crest featuring a griffin representing strength, alertness and endurance. The KE brand in the center was established as an actual cattle brand for our herd in the early 2000's. The KE represents many iconic facets of our lifestyle including: Kiepersol Excellence, Kiepersol Entertainment, the Kiepersol Environment and Kiepersol Estates.

Creating the Finest Moments in Life