



## WELCOME TO THE NITIDA CANNON STATION

Nitida Cannon Station is situated at Nitida Wine Farm at the foot of Hoogenberg in the Durbanville Wine Valley, Cape Town, South Africa.

Erick, Jürg and Jacobus (The Team) run and manage Nitida Cannon Station.

Members of the team with support from the Friends of Nitida Cannon Station (FONCS), refurbish, preserve and maintain these historical cannon, not only for the current generation, but also for generations to come.



## SOME ACHIEVEMENTS BY THE TEAM UP TO END OF 2018

- Established Bloemendal Cannon Station with a Battery of 6 smooth bore muzzle loading cannon in 2013. Due to restaurant closure early 2017, we had to find a new home for the cannon station.
- During our stay, we carried out 674 cannon firings for: Weddings, birthdays, company “bashes” and special VIP firings with a “Sabrage” after the successful firing.



*"Sabrage" performed at Bloemendal Cannon Station*

- The firings were attended by more than 42000 spectators.
- Refurbished two 4 pdr SBML cannon saved from scrapyards.
- Refurbished one "short" 9 pdr SBML cannon.
- Purchased various carriages for above cannons.
- Purchased replica loading equipment.
- Organised one cannon talk evening.
- Also fired cannons for various public and charity events.

## 4 pdr GUNS CAST IN 1781 AT EHRENDAL BROOKS FOUNDRY (SWEDEN)



*How the team found the guns and then saved them from being sold to a scrap yard*



*Ready for firing after restoration*

## Establishing Nitida Cannon Station

During October 2018 we started preparing the dam wall for the positioning of the various cannon. After a lot of backbreaking work done by the team supported by workers from Nitida Wine Farm, we were ready by end of October to lift the cannon and carriages onto the dam wall. A very generous donation from **Bernhard Veller the owner of Nitida Wine Farm** sponsored the move of the cannon and carriages to below the dam wall and also the purchasing of a carriage for the 8 pdr SBML cannon.



*Dam wall ready to receive carriages and cannon*

On Friday 30 November 2018 a huge 50t crane sponsored by **Target Cranes** and **Nitida Wine Farm** arrived next to the dam wall. It did not take long until all 7 cannon and carriages were lifted into position on the dam wall.





A few days later members of the team began treating the carriages with linseed oil and each of the cannon barrels with one coat of rust converter, primer and black top coat. Early December 2018 muzzle covers for each of the seven cannon were sponsored by **AA Shades**. Technical information plaques for each of the cannon were designed, manufactured and mounted on to concrete blocks and placed behind each cannon.

Members of the team with help from a friend of Nitida Cannon Station, started fitting retaining poles at the front of the dam wall, as well as individual steps in front of the cannon, as the loading of some cannon will be done standing on the step.



Should you be interested in firing a cannon, a static cannon tour, or would like more information regarding the displayed cannon, then please contact either:

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Jürg on cell +27 (0)83 701 8496 or e-mail [jurgz@mweb.co.za](mailto:jurgz@mweb.co.za)

*News Flash:*

*Nitida Cannon Station website is at this stage still under construction and will be launched by end of April 2019.*