

# Top 10 sizzle in the 2025 Championship Boerewors Competition

After weeks of fierce competition, the wait is finally over: ten of the country's most talented cooks have mastered the perfect balance of flavour, tradition, and heart to land them in the Grand Finale of this year's Shoprite and Checkers Championship Boerewors Competition.

The competition continues to celebrate South Africa's rich food heritage and love of traditional flavours. Since its launch in 1991, it has uncovered and awarded an array of home cooks and professional butchers with the sought-after title of Boerewors Champion, giving them with the opportunity to have their recipe sold in Shoprite and Checkers supermarkets nationwide.

But it is so much more than just a search for the best recipe - it is an institution that brings people together.

This year's Top 10 finalists reflect the diversity and spirit of the competition, with entries from every corner of the country and all walks of life. Among them is first-time finalist **Roberto Agrela**, a car salesman from Paarl, who trusted his instincts and focused on quality ingredients to get his recipe right. "Boerewors is more than just a meal. It brings families and friends together, especially around the braai," he says.

From Swellendam, **Emmerencia Pretorius**, a rescue technician, says making it into the Top 10 is a dream come true and a celebration of the love she has poured into perfecting her recipe.

Representing Durban, **Thandanani Buthelezi**, a barista, is excited about being in the final. "Boerewors is a South African tradition. It connects us across all backgrounds," he says.

Then there's former title holder **Tyron Adams**, a chef from Wellington; **Niekie Horn**, a safe house administrator from De Aar; **Keani van Drimmelen** from Benoni, who recently completed her studies in psychology; **Asheel Beharie**, an entrepreneur from Ladysmith in KwaZulu-Natal; and **Ayanda Dyanse**, a Meat Market Manager at Shoprite Humansdorp.

For some, the competition is a family affair, most notably the Blaauw family from Wellington. For 18-year-old matric learner **Xavier Blaauw**, it's his third time in the Top 10, and this year he's competing alongside his father, **Roland Blaauw**, an Application Support Specialist for the Shoprite Group.

The final cook-off, judged by butchery experts and professional chefs from the South African Chefs Association (SACA), takes place on Saturday, 23 August and the winning recipe will be available in Shoprite and Checkers stores nationwide from Friday, 5 September.

This year's prizes are substantial: first prize includes a Toyota Fortuner 2.4 GD-6 RB AT and R20 000 in cash, while second and third place winners will receive R50 000 and R30 000 in cash, respectively.

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