

2019 Dry Creek Valley Sauvignon Blanc

DRY CREEK VALLEY | SONOMA COUNTY

From our founding nearly four decades ago, our winemaking philosophy has embraced the “one foot Old World, one foot New World” approach. Our Dry Creek Valley Sauvignon Blanc embodies this and is the perfect gateway to showcase the region’s exceptional soils and climate particularly suited for this noble grape variety.

THE VINTAGE

Winter and spring were notable for above average rainfall with 49” on our estate. The balance of the growing season was mild with temperatures slightly below average. May’s rain drove vigorous canopy growth and increased cluster weights demanding more attention from our vineyard crew. Similar to 2018, the late start for picking Sauvignon Blanc extended hangtime giving us a wine that is slightly softer with a rounder acidity, yet classic in every way.

WINEMAKING NOTES

Our signature practice of 100% nighttime phased picking by hand across a range of ripeness levels gives an uncommonly broad spectrum of aromas and flavors while optimizing overall wine balance as naturally and gently as possible. After field-sorting the cold fruit, we gently whole-cluster pressed at the winery to retain acidity. Cool (59°-65°F), not cold, fermentation emphasized varietal character and terroir nuances. In 2019, a much higher percentage of barrel fermentation and aging (50%) was used in balance with stainless steel enhancing the wine’s contact with the yeast lees and resulting in a smoother, more layered texture than typical. A small amount of Semillon was the final finishing touch in crafting one of our most accessible and enjoyable vintages.

THE WINE

Enticing pale yellow color with hints of green around the edges and a spicy, floral bouquet. 2019 is a citrus-focused vintage, a direct result of extended hangtime, with Meyer lemon, white grapefruit, lime zest, and mandarin orange blossom. Additional tropical notes of pineapple, guava, lychee, and white peach come from the Musqué clone. A very subtle grassiness and honeyed green almond engage on the palate along with bright minerality in the crisp finish. There’s a raciness to this wine that we find utterly compelling. Enjoy it now and through 2023. Our mouth-quenching Sauvignon Blanc is perfect with a roasted tomato and goat cheese tart, freshly shucked oysters, petrale sole, Pad Thai noodles, or Kung Pao chicken.

TECHNICAL NOTES

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| HARVESTED BOTTLED..... | September 6 - 25, 2019 May 6, 2020 |
| APPELLATION..... | Dry Creek Valley, Sonoma County |
| VINEYARDS..... | 94% Wine Creek Ranch CCOF-certified organic and 6% Rued Family Vineyard organically-farmed |
| COMPOSITION..... | 94% Sauvignon Blanc, 6% Semillon |
| FERMENTATION..... | 50% stainless steel cool fermentation; 50% fermented and aged in neutral French oak and acacia barrels. |
| BARREL AGING..... | 500L French oak and acacia neutral barrels; aged on fine lees seven months. |
| PRODUCTION..... | 1795 cases |
| STATS..... | 13.3 % ABV pH 3.09 TA 0.63 |
| RETAIL PRICE..... | \$19 |
| WINEMAKER..... | Hugh Chappelle |

