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WINEMAKER'S RELEASE SAUVIGNON BLANC

Vintage 2014 • Russian River Valley

OBSERVATIONS ON THE FIRST VINTAGE

2014 was another incredibly dry year with the formal declaration of a California drought. We were able to make it through the season without water shortages in the vineyards by using deficit irrigation concepts and careful soil and plant moisture data. Throughout most of the growing season, we paced about two weeks earlier than a typical season; including another classic California spring and summer without any weather extremes. We were also anticipating an early harvest until the arrival of significant fog and a late summer cool down. Harvest began on September 4. All four distinct vineyards were harvested within a five day period, with the last fruit coming in on September 9.

FOUR DISTINCT VINEYARDS

For this Winemaker's Release of Sauvignon Blanc, we selected fruit from four unique vineyards within the Russian River Valley. Each of these sites produced remarkably different wines. The first two vineyards were located to the west. Shone Farm, has a higher elevation and deep, red, volcanic soils, giving the wine a lot of citrus flavors and nice minerality. The second, Mirabelle Vineyard, sits right on the banks of the Russian River and is the lowest, coolest site of the four. This site contributed classic lime and lychee characters, steely acidity and a tightly framed palate. Wood Vineyard located in the eastern part of the Russian River Valley contributed guava, tropical notes and gave the wine a Chardonnay-like expansive, creamy palate. Lastly, to the south is Duff Bevil's, Hall Ranch. This very cool, foggy site contributed unmistakable aromas and flavors of passion fruit while adding a wonderful elegance and balance to the palate.

ON THE WINE

Sauvignon Blanc is the third wine to be introduced in our Winemaker's Release series. As we crafted this wine, it was important to us to bring together the unique characteristics of each of the four vineyards in a complimentary way. We are thrilled with the result of a classic Sauvignon Blanc that is distinctly Russian River Valley.

The wine has a bright and vibrant style. It showcases aromas of passion fruit, lychee, lime and white peach with overtones of wet stone minerality. The palate is sleek and crisp with tropical flavors of guava and passion fruit that mingle with notes of grapefruit, mandarin, and lime. One-third of the wine was barrel fermented in two-year-old oak for four months, adding a nice creamy texture to the mid-palate, which is supported by a bright finish of citrus laced acidity.



Alcohol: 13.3% • TA: 6.34 gms/L
pH: 3.15 • RS: 0.27 gms/L • 100% Sauvignon Blanc
33% Barrel Fermented in two-year-old oak,
67% Stainless steel fermentation.
Vineyard Breakdown: 43% Hall, 29% Mirabelle,
20% Wood, 8% Shone

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VINEYARDS

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