

STARBOROUGH

MARLBOROUGH - NEW ZEALAND

STARBOROUGH SAUVIGNON BLANC 2011

TASTING NOTE

Bright, very pale straw-yellow colour. This has aromas of ripe gooseberries, capsicums and tropical fruit notes that unfold in the glass. Dry to taste, this has full, rich flavours of gooseberries, passionfruit and melons showing good lusciousness and juiciness through the palate. The palate is mouthfilling with soft textures, but has lively acidity for vibrancy.

VITICULTURE

The fruit was sourced in roughly equal portions from two individual Starborough vineyards. O'Dwyers Farm Vineyard in the Rapaura district (Wairau) where the soil is a fertile free draining alluvial silt loam providing potent fruit forward Sauvignon Blanc. Starborough Terrace Vineyard (Awatere Valley) located on the southern side of the Awatere River. The soils at the Awatere site comprise of wind-blown loess over stony river gravel deposits, moderate fertility and very free draining. Both sites provide the perfect conditions for growing premium cool climate Sauvignon Blanc.

The yield on the two and three cane VSP (vertical shoot position) trained vines were closely monitored through the growing season. Targeted shoot thinning was performed to produce optimum canopy growth and yield control.

Each vineyard block was carefully monitored during ripening and machine harvested in cool early morning conditions at peak maturity and flavour development.

WINEMAKING

The fruit was pressed off as quickly as possible to minimise skin contact and juice deterioration following harvesting. After settling, the juice was fermented using selected yeast in stainless steel at cool temperatures retaining fruit flavour and freshness.

All individual vineyard parcels were left on light lees and kept separate until August, when the blend was assembled from the most desirable parcels.

The wine was bottled in late August with an alcohol of 13.2%, pH 3.25 and acidity of 7.9 g/l.



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