



SARACINA SAUVIGNON BLANC MENDOCINO COUNTY 2016

Vintage & Appellation

Mendocino County 2016
Production of 880 cases

Varietal Composition

100% Sauvignon Blanc

Bottling Date

March 3, 2017

Technical Data

13.2% alcohol by volume
0.76 g/100 ml titratable acidity
pH 3.11

Release Date

March 20, 2017

Vineyards

The grapes were sourced from two vineyards, both organically farmed. Our own Atrea Ranch is planted to Sauvignon Musque, which grapes add subtle melon notes and backbone to the blend. The dry-farmed Lolonis Vineyard, planted in 1945 and recognized as the oldest Sauvignon Blanc vineyard in California, provides the minerality and austerity we strive for in our rendition of Sauvignon Blanc.

Harvest

2016 was almost a mirror image of 2015, with virtually identical harvest dates. Harvest was preceded by an even growing season that was unmarred by excessive heat or cold spikes. Rainfall was still significantly below average, but certainly adequate for our dry-farmed Sauvignon Blanc, which loves the stress of low precipitation years. We began picking with the Atrea Vineyard Musque on August 18 and finished with Lolonis Vineyard on August 26.

Winemaking and Cooperage

The grapes were hand-picked, whole cluster pressed, and barrel fermented with native yeast in neutral Burgundian barrels. The wine did not undergo malolactic fermentation. Acid levels were brilliantly elevated, and the concentrated berries produced excellent fruit intensity and weight. The juice remained on the lees, with bi-weekly *batonnage*, for 3 months.

Winemaker Alex MacGregor's Comments

The 2016 stays true to our goal of producing a "serious" Sauvignon Blanc. Pale lemon, the aromatics exude old vine character, with lime zest, wet steel and a briny, oyster shell note. The palate is chiseled and zesty, with the addition of Musque and lees contact adding weight to the nervy core. Virtually any seafood on the half shell would be an ideal pairing. During the summer months, when fresh aromatic herbs like basil are abundant, pair our Sauvignon Blanc with grilled fish with a garlicky pesto.