

2021 STAR LANE SAUVIGNON BLANC

STAR LANE VINEYARD, HAPPY CANYON OF SANTA BARBARA



ALCOHOL
13.0%

AGED
7 months

OAK
50% Neutral French
50% Stainless Steel

HARVESTED
August 2021

BOTTLED
March 2022

CELLAR LIFE
3-7 years

VINTAGE

2021 presented unique challenges specific to Star Lane that we didn't see in the Sta. Rita Hills. Frost events at the end of 2020 before the vines went dormant impacted early Spring growth in 2021. This led to uneven bud break timing, shoot growth, and flowering. While challenging, one thing we've learned over the years of farming is that grapevines are very resilient and that great wine can be discovered, it's the work to find it that changes with each vintage. 2021 was no exception to this rule. We had to remove fruit from short shoots, saw dramatic reduction in yields, but had near perfect weather all year and observed intense flavors, and terrific tannin development that created very structured wines that suggested notions of both 2019's fresh structure and 2020's intense forward fruit. The Sauvignon Blanc was no exception to what we observed generally at Star Lane. Even the younger, more vigorous vines saw disruptions to their shoot growth and required more tender loving care than in a typical vintage. However the quality and intensity of the fruit was unparalleled in the previous 5 vintages.

WINEMAKER NOTES

Our typical regime for Sauvignon blanc was no different in 2021: whole clusters went direct to press where they underwent a slow press cycle designed to minimize bitter components and promote fresh flavor profiles. About 35% of the wine was fermented in a large oak cask which seems to open the aromatics up and increase roundness, and the remaining juice fermented in stainless steel to promote tension and energy in the mouth feel. Secondary fermentation, which can soften the palate feel, was prevented to balance out the natural body observed.

TASTING NOTES

Aromas fly out of the glass with a tropical and stone fruit explosion. The intensity of the wine is apparent before the first sip and only confirmed when the wine is tasted. You can feel the body of the wine as it hits your palate, but the verve and energy of freshness carries through all the way to the finish which only begs you to take a second sip and desire a second glass.

