



2020 RIDGELANDS SANDSTONE

100% SAUVIGNON BLANC
W.O. ELGIN



ANALYSIS
Alcohol: 13.48%
Total acid: 6.1 g/L
Residual sugar: 2.6 g/L
pH: 3.48

The Ridgeland range of wines are domain and vineyard specific, and carefully selected to express a true sense of place.

TERROIR & VITICULTURE

Elgin Valley has a cool climate. The topography of 500 to 1000 m above sea level, close to the Atlantic Ocean and surrounded by mountains, makes this valley unique. The average summer temperature is 28°C and the cooling night temperatures can differ up to 15 to 18 °C at night. These climatic conditions are ideal for Sauvignon Blanc. The grape-derived impact odourants accumulate during the long and slow ripening period in the grape berries under perfect conditions. The vines selected for this wine are planted on sedimentary Sandstone soils comprising of quartz and feldspar. Sandstone Sauvignon Blanc are made from two French clones - 316 and 317.

VINIFICATION

Grapes were hand harvested in the early hours of the morning during the second week of March 2020. After destemming, grapes are taken into the press and covered with a layer of dry ice to prevent oxidation. Six hours skin contact is allowed before the press cycle starts. Only the free run juice and first cycle of the press juice are used for Sandstone which eliminates any harsh phenolic compounds. The juice yield per one ton of grapes is only 500 litres. After settling, the juice is racked to 500L French oak barrels and fermented naturally with wild yeasts. This slow fermentation takes 6 weeks to complete. No racking from the gross lees is done during a 9-month maturation period.

TASTING NOTES

Yellow straw colour. Toasty nose with hints of dried fruit. Herbaceous on the palate with peas and asparagus. A well-hidden acidity, with a full mid-palate. Round, rich and savoury with a lingering finish.

FOOD SUGGESTIONS

This barrel fermented white wine calls for food with a weightier palate such as Chicken Saltimbocca, pork schnitzel with a cream sauce or simple gnocchi with burnt sage butter.