



MARGERUM

2022 D Sauvignon Blanc

Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara



100% Sauvignon Blanc

Alcohol 13.3%

pH 3.49

TA 6.5 g/L

Production 273 cases

Margerum “D” is an exploration of what can be achieved with barrel fermentation of great quality Sauvignon Blanc. The high mineral (low nutrient) soils of the Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara automatically put these wines into a special category. Reductive winemaking, with battonage, gives the wine a mineral quality, a textured palate and an ability to age for ten to twenty years.

This wine is crafted from picks of Sauvignon Blanc grown at McGinley Vineyard, Grassini Vineyard and Vogelzang Vineyard. These early picks saw some skin contact and all were fermented in 265 Liter Ermitage “Cigar” pipes. These barrels are uniquely elongated for added lees contact and are a combination of new, one-year old and two-year old barrels that have been used only for the “D” program. D stands for the legendary Pouilly-sur-Loire Winemaker, Didier Dagueneau, who also made barrel-fermented Sauvignon Blancs and was seen as an iconoclast for it.

Vintage Conditions: Santa Barbara County had ideal growing conditions for most of the year and mild summer temperatures until an extended Labor Day heat wave hit. We were ready and harvested most of the early ripening varieties before and right at the beginning of the heat. Of course, that was followed by rain but after that the weather was mild, and we had a long timeframe for the remainder of harvest in which to carefully pick for optimal flavors. Yields were slightly below average.

Maturation: Aged entirely in barrel for 8 months with battonage (lees stirring) and kept in our very cold cellar. Aged in a mixture of new, one-year old and neutral cigar pipe (longer than typical) Ermitage barrels.

Color: Bright, shiny white gold and steel grey.

Aroma: Intoxicating bouquet of green and yellow citrus, garden herbs, minerals and white yellow flowers with subtle hints of nobility from wood and an indication of a great wine.

Palate: A concentrated, rich, vibrant and flavorful expression of Sauvignon Blanc that has a fascinating combination of citrus fruits, savory elements and beautiful nuances of integrated oak. Structured, built and a serious example of higher tier Sauvignon Blanc.

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