



MARGERUM

2023 D Sauvignon Blanc

Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara



100% Sauvignon Blanc

Alcohol 12.6%

pH 3.49

TA 6.0 g/L

Production 273 cases

Margerum “D” is an exploration of what can be achieved with barrel fermentation of selected lots of high-quality Sauvignon Blanc from the Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara AVA. The high mineral (low nutrient) soils of the Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara AVA 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 and improve for many years.

This wine is crafted from picks of Sauvignon Blanc grown at McGinley Vineyard, Grassini Vineyard, Happy Canyon Vineyard and Two Wolves Vineyard. These early picks saw some skin contact and all were aged 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 Blanc.

Vintage Conditions: Santa Barbara County harvest began about a month later than in 2022. The harvest was long and slow as mild temperatures persisted. We have been very happy with the quality of the grapes as extended hang time added to the complexity of the wines. The winter 2022 rains percolated the soil and salts that had accumulated in the soil, allowing the vines to access previously tied-up nutrients. Harvest for most varietals was almost a month behind “normal”.

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: Rich, vibrant and flavorful expression of Sauvignon Blanc that have a combination of citrus fruits, savory elements and nuances of integrated oak. Structured, built and a serious example of higher tier Sauvignon Blanc.

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