



Astrolabe

*Province*

MARLBOROUGH SAUVIGNON BLANC 2016

#### VARIETY

100% Sauvignon Blanc.

#### GRAPEGROWERS

Grown in the vineyards of the Lissaman, van Asch, Jones, Hammond, Halliday, Wilson, Trolove and Rose families.

#### LOCALITY

Central southern (40%) and lower northern (16%) Awatere Valley, Southern Valleys (17%), Wairau Valley (14%) and Kekerengu Coast (13%) Marlborough, New Zealand.

#### SPECIFICATIONS

Alcohol	13.5 %
Residual sugar	1.1 g/l
pH	3.39
Titrateable Acidity	6.4 g/l

#### VITICULTURE

**Climate** Another very warm and dry season, with the second driest and the warmest since winegrowing commenced in Marlborough. Rain in January helped to size-up the berries to be larger than normal, despite the otherwise dry season. Warmth over the harvest months lowered the acid in the fruit at harvest.

**Soils** Free-draining stony, silty loam, with some vineyards having clay or limestone content.

**Vine Management** Standard trellis, with pruning to two to four canes, and vertical shoot positioning. Vines are trimmed closely, well tucked and lightly leaf plucked.

**Harvest Dates** Between 2<sup>nd</sup> April and 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2016.

#### WINEMAKING

The fruit was machine harvested in cool evening conditions, de-stemmed and lightly pressed with minimal skin contact. Clear, cold-settled juice was fermented in stainless steel vats at low temperatures, using neutral wine yeast strains to allow the powerful fruit flavours to dominate.

#### TASTING NOTES

**Colour/Appearance** Pale straw with green highlights.

**Aroma/Bouquet** Lemon grass, lime peel and passionfruit, with background notes of white currant and red pepper.

**Palate** Medium-bodied with white peach, tropical fruits and citrus flavours, and a dry mineral finish.

**Cellaring** Very enjoyable when young and fresh, and with the potential to age gracefully.

**Suggested Foods** Fresh, leafy green salads, seafood of all types, and dishes with lifted aromatic herbs.

**Serve** Chilled.

*Simon Waghorn*

Simon Waghorn, Winemaker.