



Astrolabe

Province

MARLBOROUGH SAUVIGNON BLANC 2018

VARIETY

100% sauvignon blanc.

GRAPEGROWERS

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

LOCALITY

Central southern (25%) and lower northern (33%) Awatere Valley, Southern Valleys (26%), Kekerengu Coast (11%) and Lower Wairau (5%), Marlborough, New Zealand.

SPECIFICATIONS

Alcohol	13.5 %
Residual sugar	1.6 g/l
pH	3.5
Total acidity	6.7 g/l

VITICULTURE

Climate The 2017-2018 growing season was the warmest since 1973, when grapes were first planted in Marlborough. Temperatures were 1.1 degrees over the long-term average. It was wetter than normal January through March and made tricky by three extended rain events. A dry period between late February and late March helped the grapes get through in reasonable condition, and the health of the canopies ensured good flavour development.

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 20th March and 8th April, 2018.

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 and passionfruit, with background notes of herbs, nettle, white currant and capsicum.

Palate Medium-bodied with gooseberry, 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, Winemaker.