

Davis Family Vineyards

2001 Gusto Sauvignon Blanc

Sauvignon Blanc is one of our favorite wines, both to drink and to make. It is delicious with a variety of different foods or by itself as a refreshing aperitif or cocktail wine. When well made the flavors are bright and fresh with a crisp, clean finish. We make our Sauvignon Blanc in and from the Marlborough region of New Zealand. In our opinion the soil and climate there is essentially perfect to grow rich, distinctive, full flavored Sauvignon Blanc. "Sauvy" as it's usually referred to in New Zealand is unique and special when grown in this specific place.

Marlborough is in the northwestern tip of the south island of New Zealand, so the temperatures are cool, due to the coastal influence, but relatively dry throughout the growing season. The calcium rich soils when matched with this climate create a long, even growing season that help to develop intense flavors. We harvest the grapes for our Gusto Sauvignon Blanc from 2 different vineyards...one is a very cool location and by the end of the summer (that's March in New Zealand) the grapes still have a low sugar content and high levels of acidity, the flavors are mature but not overly sweet, this vineyard adds the fresh herb and lime flavors and brightness to the final blend.

The second vineyard gets a bit warmer throughout the summer and we allow the sugar levels to get much higher before picking. This block brings the more tropical aromas and flavors to the blend and adds the full body and richness to the wine. We ferment both lots of grapes in stainless steel tanks kept at 58 to 60 degrees, so the fermentation is very slow to capture and preserve all the flavors of the vineyards.

Once the fermentations are complete we allow the wine to age on its lees for a number of months then our winemaker Guy Davis works on trials to establish the perfect blend that will highlight all the best features of each vineyard and create a final wine with amazing complexity and perfect balance. This 2001 is just that... a lively, beautifully aromatic wine with aromas and flavors of fresh herbs, citrus, passion fruit and melons showing great balance of richness and crispness and a lush lingering finish.

A recent review we received for our Gusto Luma Sauvignon Blanc:

Beverage Testing Institute

Bright straw hue. Intensely herbaceous, pungent gooseberry nose. A lean entry leads to a ripe, medium-bodied palate with generous flavors and clean acidity. A rich, forceful Marlborough style. Drink now.

RATED: 89 points (Highly Recommended)

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