

GRGICH HILLS ESTATE

NAPA VALLEY



SAUVIGNON BLANC
2020 ESSENCE®
ESTATE GROWN • NAPA VALLEY

VINTAGE: 2020 was a challenging but ultimately one of the most rewarding vintages for us. One of the hottest vintages on record with multiple heat waves well over 100 degrees, vintage 2020 was also accompanied by exceptionally low rainfall: 50-60% below average. Despite the heat and drought, our vines were well prepared for the stress. Due to low rainfall in 2020, the vines prepared themselves for drought by producing less leaves, which requires less water. The heat and drought produced exceptionally low yields but with excellent quality – great acid and freshness in white wines, and beautiful concentration and color in the reds.

VINEYARD: Only the best blocks that express the true nature – the essence – of our Sauvignon Blanc are used for this limited production wine. The grapes come from our chilly American Canyon vineyard (51%) and are supplemented from our Carneros vineyard (49%), where the cool climate and thin soils limit vigor, producing fewer grapes but more intense flavor. We hand-harvested the grapes at night into small bins, so they arrived at the winery cool and intact, preserving their wonderful flavors and bright acidity. We farm all our vineyards naturally, using the principles of regenerative agriculture, and they are certified organic.

THE WINE: The 2020 Napa Valley Essence®, Sauvignon Blanc, is fresh and vibrant, tickling your tongue and making your mouth water. Citrusy with a refreshing minerality, complex flavors of lemon, grapefruit and a hint of quince develop in the glass. Green pear and nectarine splash onto the palate with sparkling flavors of lime zest that form a chiseled, long-lasting and elegant finish.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Alcohol.....13.2% by volume
Fermentation.. indigenous
 fermentation in
 oak *foudres*
Harvest date... Aug. 28-Sept. 9, 2020
Sugar22° Brix (average)
Bottling date....June 2021
Release date....March 2022
Total acid6.8 g/L
pH3.19
Time in oak.....8 months
Type of oak.....100% French oak
 27% neutral barrels
 73% large oak *foudres*
Production..... 969 cases (12/750 ml.)
Blend96% Sauvignon Blanc
 2% Orange Muscat
 2% Gewürztraminer