

SEASON SUMMARY

Our friendship with Mother Nature is always on her terms, and 2020 was no exception. In her benevolence, she decided to grant near-perfect conditions in the vineyards. It was a dry but not particularly hot year in Marlborough, which let the fruit mature with little stress on the vines.

The dry weather was also a godsend for our vineyard team. Despite a rainy December, there was very little disease pressure to worry about after Christmas. The crew undertook canopy work to let the bunches soak up the sun. The result? Full-flavoured, concentrated and complex fruit.

The harvest, under the cloud of COVID-19, was a challenge. But thanks to sunny days and cool nights there was plenty of time to pick the fruit at the perfect maturity.

The Sauvignon Blanc harvest commenced on March 15th and was completed on April 2nd.

KEY VINEYARDS

Our Sauvignon Blanc comes largely from vineyards planted on the Wairau Valley floor, where the climate and free-draining gravelly soils are perfect for Sauvignon Blanc. This includes the Estate, Motukawa, Widows, Red Shed, and Mustang vineyards.



WINEMAKING & BLENDING

Following the harvest, the freerun juice was cold settled, before racking and inoculation with selected yeast. Fermentation was carried out primarily in stainless steel tanks, with approximately 4% of the blend fermented at warmer temperatures in old French oak barriques and large format oak vats. As usual, our Sauvignon Blanc was blended stringently to include only the best; in 2020 the final blend comprises 91 different portions.



NOSE: The 2020 Sauvignon Blanc is bright and focused. You'll find ripe grapefruit, passionfruit and makrut lime on the nose.



PALATE: Zesty lime, lemon-grass and juicy stone fruit mingle and meld into a mouthwatering palate. Subtle mineral notes keep the whole thing grounded. Vibrant, concentrated fruit brings balance and poise. The finish is long, the hallmark of Cloudy Bay's very best vintages: a wine that will age gracefully in the years to come.



Sauvignon Blanc 2020