



Staeete Landt 2022 *'Duchess'* Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc

Viticulture

Winemaker Ruud Maasdam locates the best possible block of Sauvignon Blanc in Marlborough for this very special Staeete Landt wine.

The 2022 vintage for this block was more voluminous than the 3 years before. We had to go into the block a few times to reduce the number of bunches per vine so that we would get more expression in the fruit remaining. Less is more, as they say. So we made sure there were less bunches which would give us high quality fruit necessary for this quite unique wine. Leaf removal has been carried out to get optimal air movement through the canopy.

All in all the warm last 2 months leading up to harvest 2022 gave us beautiful clean fruit with optimum physiological ripeness, classy crispness and great intensity of flavors

The Sauvignon Blanc block selected for this Duchess comes from our vineyard deep in the Brancott Valley sub-appellation in Marlborough.

Winemaking

Two portions on this vineyard were selected for this wine for optimal delicacy and elegance. These portions are then fermented in 6 to 10 year old puncheons (500 litre barrels). We especially keep a batch of our best barrels for quite a few years longer than we would 'normally' keep our barrels.

We do this because fermentation in big oak barrels is (in this case) not about imparting oak flavour but about a creamy and subtle oxygen-rich process. These 'Duchess' barrels were left unsulfured and unprotected to go through fermentation with indigenous yeast.

Some of the barrels went through a secondary 'malo lactic' fermentation as well to add further creaminess and even more texture and complexity to the wine.

The result is a highly structured and complex Sauvignon Blanc.



Wine analysis

Alcohol	: 12.9 %	Harvest Dates	: 2 April
Acidity	: 5.55 g/l	Brix	: 22 – 23
pH	: 3.45		
Sugar	: < 2 g/l		

Tasting Note

This unique Wild Barrel Ferment style Staeete Landt Sauvignon Blanc is a wonderfully rich and complex Sauvignon Blanc with layers of nutty, yeasty savoury characters that contrast with red capsicum and exotic fruit such as pawpaw, passion fruit. On the palate the wine is full bodied, well-balanced with great complexity and big texture. This rich and voluptuous wine has attractive mineral characters and shows Sauvignon Blanc with huge style elegance.