



AMATRA RANGE

2022 SEMILLON



ORIGIN:

Elgin Valley, South Africa

TASTING NOTE:

Semillon from the cool climate Elgin Valley has layers of complex fruit top notes of citrus, apples, pears and green papaya. The bees wax and lanoline texture balances the fresh acidity to provide a wine of harmony and balance from entry to finish on the palate.

OVERVIEW:

Semillon is planted in Graves in Bordeaux (generally blended with Sauvignon Blanc), Hunter Valley in Australia, USA, Chile and Argentina. In 1820, 90% of the vineyards in South Africa were planted as "Groendruif" (green grape) which is the local name for Semillon.

It is an easy vine to grow, with minimal interference from pests and fungal issues. It is thin skinned and ripens relatively early. It is lighter bodied than other white wines and its versatility lends itself to fermentation and maturation in barrel, stainless steel, concrete eggs or amphorae. Semillon is an excellent blending partner to Sauvignon Blanc too.

VINEYARDS:

Semillon grapes were selected from a single vineyard in Elgin on a sandy top layer with sedimentary clay underlying.

The vines are vertically shoot positioned on a 5-wire fence system planted 2.2m x 1.2m apart. Production averages at 6-8 tons per hectare. The grapes were hand harvested in March.

WINEMAKING:

Both cluster and berry sorting commence prior to being partially crushed. The mash is pressed in a pneumatic bag press where both free run and pressed fractions are treated oxidatively with minimal chemical additive intervention.

The juice is cold settled for two days and then decanted to neutral 225 litre French casks. Spontaneous fermentation at about 15 Celsius lasts for 18 to 20 days. The wine goes through partial secondary malolactic fermentation and matures for 8 months. Once the wine completes maturation, the casks are decanted into a tank for light filtration prior to bottling.

ANALYSIS:

Alcohol: 12.5% ; Acidity: 5.8g/l ; pH: 3.19 ; Residual Sugar: 2.4g/l ; Total Extract: 20.7g/l

Our wine is produced with no animal products.

RECOMMENDED BOTTLE MATURATION:

The wine is approachable in its primary stage with bright, fresh, vibrant fruit aromatics and may age well for five to eight years under optimal cellar conditions. Primary citrus, fresh apple and papaya fruit aromatics may evolve into spicy baked apple with an accentuated beeswax/lanoline texture.

RELEASE DATE:

March 2023