

THE TANGRAM

DURBANVILLE HILLS



THE TANGRAM WHITE BLEND 2018

The tangram is a Chinese geometrical puzzle consisting of five triangles, a square and a rhomboid, which can be arranged to make various forms and pictures to tell a story.

To master the Tangram, one has to look at the whole puzzle to understand and form the myriad of images to be shaped. Our Tangram is skillfully crafted from the following seven elements; our three wine makers, earth, wind, fire & water. A noble blend of Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon was created. This wine was rested in French oak barrels for 10 months and is an expression of an illustrious cool climate wine

APPELLATION: Durbanville, Cape Town

VARIETALS: 76% Sauvignon Blanc, 24% Semillon.

VINTAGE 2018: The harvest was particularly challenging due to a prolonged drought resulting in a smaller crop. However smaller berries have more flavour intensity and this, along with cooler weather during harvest time, relieved some pressure on vines and resulted in exceptional quality grapes.

IN THE VINEYARD: The Sauvignon Blanc was selected from three vineyard blocks on the southern slopes where the valley opens up towards the West Coast. The 31-year old bush vine block is situated lowest of three blocks on the slopes and also enjoys the most wind protection. The majority of the grapes were selected from this block ensuring the classical and mineral character of the wine.

The two 16-year-old trellised vineyards higher up on the hill supplied the more typical fruity aromas. At a height of 180 to 200 meters above sea they are exposed to the cool southeasterly breezes blowing in from nearby False Bay.

The Semillon block was planted in 1996 in the cool heart of the valley, where the vines are known to contribute to the fullness on the palate. Satellite technology was used to identify the premium spots in each block. Only grapes from these spots were harvested and used to make this wine. The decision on when to pick was made by regularly tasting the grapes to establish the ripening profile and prevent overly fruity grapes to ensure complexity rather than mere fruitiness. To ensure gentle handling of the grapes during harvest, the winemakers hand-selected a dedicated team that picked the grapes ensuring a careful selection of the best fruit in the vineyard.

IN THE CELLAR: Both the Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon were handpicked at optimum ripeness in the early morning. The grapes were crushed and allowed to cold settle for three days, with lees stirring once a day. The clean juice was racked to a stainless steel fermentation tank and inoculated with a selected yeast strain. The first 5°B of fermentation was done in tank and thereafter transferred to barrels to complete fermentation.

MATURATION: The winemakers selected a combination of new and old French oak barrels; focusing on three sizes, namely 300 litre, 500 litre and 600 litre to mature the wine for a further 10 months to ensure a better extraction of the flavours and overall complexity. During maturation the wine was regularly stirred to add complexity to the blend. After maturation, the winemaking team spent a number of days selecting the best barrels to create the perfect blend.

COLOR: Brilliant lime green

AROMA: Aromas of fresh citrus, orange blossom, summer berries and a mix bowl of fresh fruit combine effortlessly with hints of lime and minerality.

TASTE: Rich, creamy fullness with concentrated complexity, sweet wood spice, tropical fruit with hints of melon, and minerality, ending with a lingering freshness.

AGING: For optimum enjoyment, decant at least one hour before consumption and serve at 15°C-18 °C. If stored in optimal conditions, the wine will last at least a decade.

ANALYSIS: Alc. 13.52% (Vol) / RS – 2.23g/l / TA 6.68g/l / pH – 3.15