



Ashbourne

SANDSTONE 2022

WINE OF ORIGIN HEMEL-EN-AARDE VALLEY

SOIL: Table Mountain Sandstone derived soil

ALCOHOL: 13.30%

ACID: 6.70 g/l

PH: 3.27

RESIDUAL SUGAR: 1.90 g/l

FERMENTATION AND MATURATION: Sauvignon blanc in Terracotta Amporae, Nomblot Egg and Ceramic Egg, Semillon in neutral oak barrels, Chardonnay in Terracotta Amphorae and neutral oak barrels - for 5 months

BLEND COMPOSITION: 51% Sauvignon blanc 24% Chardonnay 25% Semillon

FRUIT ORIGIN: Hemel-en-Aarde Valley 100%

YIELD: 2.7 tons/ha, 17.50 hl/ha

PRODUCTION: 557 cases of 12 bottles equivalent



Growing Season

2022 was around 10 days later than usual for Sauvignon blanc and our average of the maximum temperatures for the 4 crucial months leading up to and during harvest was 25.18 centigrade, higher than our long-term average of 24.63 centigrade and higher than 2021. While ripening was slow and extended, harvest was fortunately complete before the first rains in early March. Winter was our wettest in 24 years and was followed by a slightly wetter than average bud break to veraison period, but with an unusually (and usefully) dry September facilitating healthy, even budding. Apart from cold, wet, early season clay soils inhibiting shoot growth, and a few heat spikes creating the potential for sunburn, the vintage proceeded smoothly and delivered beautiful, generous, textured wines.

Wine Style

This is an innovative white blend that captures the most beautiful possible expression of the sandstone-derived soils in the Hemel-en-Aarde Valley. Free by design of excessively dramatic varietal fruit, the focus of the wine is on bright, hard minerality, salinity and vibrant natural acidity, coated by a full and gentle viscosity derived from a unique endemic yeast and the method of vinification, not from high alcohol. Nearly three decades of family experience have gone into this blend.

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