2017 SAUVIGNON BLANC

VARIETAL BACKGROUND
Sauvignon Blanc hails from the Bordeaux and Loire regions in France, both on the Atlantic coast. More specifically, the best-known wines from Bordeaux are made in the Graves region, and in the Loire, from the Sancerre and Pouilly-Fumé areas. Other notable Sauvignon Blanc producing regions include Chile, Australia, South Africa, the Tre Venezie in Italy, and Washington State. New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc was brought to California in the late 1800s.

SIP™ CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE
The Niven family’s estate vineyard, Paragon, has earned the Sustainability in Practice (SIP™) Vineyard Certification. The family has ensured that these vineyards have historically been farmed in a careful and responsible manner, taking into account all facets of the surrounding environment. Certification proves their collective commitment to environmental stewardship, economic viability, and equitable treatment of employees. SIP™ provides a comprehensive and verifiable method to authenticate a vineyard’s attention to integrated farming practices.

TANGENT SAUVIGNON BLANC
Owned and farmed by the Niven family, the Paragon Vineyard in the Edna Valley of California provides the grapes for this wine. Originally planted in 1973, these are most likely the oldest Sauvignon Blanc vines south of the North Coast. With the Pacific Ocean lying only five miles to the west, its influence creates one of the longest growing seasons in the state. As in the cool climates of both France and New Zealand, the grapes leisurely ripen, creating fruit of structured minerality and good acid backbone.

Our winemaking team harvests at different levels of ripeness in order to achieve the ideal finished wine. One portion is picked a bit early; the higher acid and lower sugar in the berries bring a crisp citrus and slight herbal character. The middle portion is harvested at balanced ripeness, while the third is picked a little later in the season. The fruit in this last batch provides tropical notes and a round mouthfeel. Clusters are picked from different vineyard blocks at each of the three stages, and fermented separately. Stainless steel tanks provide the perfect environment, and the juice is kept very cool during fermentation, usually lasting five to eight weeks. There is no oak influence or malo-lactic fermentation.

TASTING NOTES
“Our rare example of a cool climate Sauvignon Blanc is bright and racy. Full of flavors of zesty citrus, guava and passionfruit with a chalky minerality and a hint of salinity. This wine highlights all the benefits of our cool climate estate vineyard, ideal for growing this vibrant varietal. We like to think of this wine as the perfect combination of Sauvignon Blancs from New Zealand and Sancerre – bursting with fruit flavors and balanced with the perfect amount of racy acidity.”

STATS
APPELLATION: Edna Valley
VINEYARD SOURCE: Paragon Vineyard, Edna Valley
VINEYARD CERTIFICATION: SIP Certified Sustainable
CLONES: 1, 530 and Musque
HARVEST DATES: 9/13/17 - 10/19/17
FERMENTATION: Cold soaked on skin for 2 hours, cold tank fermented at 52°F for 24 days
BARREL CONTACT: Zero
% ML: Zero
ALCOHOL: 13.6%
TA: 7.66 g/l
pH: 3.1
BOTTLING DATE: 3/13/18
CLOSURE: Screwcap
CASES PRODUCED: 8,175
SUGGESTED RETAIL: $17

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