



2011 SAUVIGNON BLANC

Mitsuko's Vineyard, Carneros, Napa Valley

MITSUKO'S VINEYARD, located in the cool Carneros region, has proven over the years to have an abundance of ideal sites for Sauvignon Blanc. Purchased by Clos Pegase as bare land in 1989, the winery has continued to refine the vineyard's plantings in order to maximize the site's potential, and subsequently, the Clos Pegase Sauvignon Blanc continues to evolve each year.

HARVEST NOTES

2011 began with a cooler-than-average spring accompanied by intermittent rain. Following delays in fruit-set, warmer summer temperatures moved grape maturity forward ideally through veraison. Rains began again in early October requiring extra work in the vineyard to remove leaves and damaged clusters. Thankfully, our estate vineyards' well-drained soil allowed us to make it to harvest without any quality impact. Our vigilance and determination resulted in a small crop of high-quality fruit demonstrating great freshness, vibrancy and balance.

WINEMAKER NOTES

The unusual growing season required us to delay harvest of Sauvignon Musqué to achieve balance and full flavor development. The very small crop level permitted us the luxury of fermenting 94% in puncheon, which helped to broaden the mouthfeel. The remaining 6% was fermented in new acacia puncheons from France, further enhancing the structure of the wine without adding tannic elements associated with new oak barrels. Finally, all lots received extensive lees stirring to enhance mouthfeel and enrich the texture.

TASTING NOTES

Our 2011 Mitsuko's Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc possesses intense, complex and inviting aromas of guava, passion fruit, Meyer lemons, pineapple, kaffir lime leaf, lemongrass and verbena, with undertones of gooseberry, nectarine and flint. The wine demonstrates concentration, vibrancy and minerality, with a pitch-perfect acidity counterbalanced by richness, depth and lengthy fruit flavors.

TECHNICAL INFO

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

100% Sauvignon Blanc

CLONE

100% Sauvignon Musqué

VINEYARD

Mitsuko's Vineyard,
Carneros, Napa Valley

VINE AGE

13 years

SOIL

Haire Clay-Loam

HARVEST DATES

October 1–8

FERMENTATION

100% inoculated

MALOLACTIC

None

AGING

5 months: 94% in neutral French oak puncheons, 6% in new French acacia puncheons

BOTTLING DATE

April 2012

ALCOHOL

14.1%

RESIDUAL SUGAR

0.07%