

# 2020 SAUVIGNON BLANC

NAPA VALLEY

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## VINTAGE NOTES

2020 started out as an unassuming year. The prior 2019 vintage boasted a wet spring, moderate summer heat, and long and mild growing season resulting in optimal freshness in the wines. 2020's warm, dry winter in Napa Valley – February was on average ten degrees warmer than the prior year - resulted in small berries. Bud break occurred earlier than usual, but a good fruit set led to evenly developed clusters.

A warm summer served as a bellwether for what was to be a historic wildfire season. An otherwise ideal growing season was cut short by the Glass Fire, which broke out on September 27th in the Deer Park area. The fire was contained on October 10th, but not before burning over 67,000 acres in Napa and Sonoma Counties. Fortunately, the Sauvignon Blanc was harvested prior to the fire, and the fruit escaped damage and smoke taint.

## VINEYARD NOTES

Sourcing from premium, local vineyards is a cornerstone of the Elusa winemaking program. Working with Tofanelli vineyards is no exception. The 40-acre estate has been under three generations of stewardship by the one family and is home to rare pre-WWII vines.

Cultivated since 1929, the land is dry farmed and has been grown organically since before it was commonplace. Unique to this vineyard, Tofanelli does not use trellising. In fact, the vines are trained to drape over themselves and appear almost bush like, which stands out in a valley of vineyards grown in long, entwined rows.

## TASTING NOTES

Notes of lemon zest emerge on the nose, serving as welcome introduction to this bright and crisp Sauvignon Blanc. On the palate, one may pick up stone fruit and white flowers. Partial oak aging in 25% French oak adds an unusual yet welcome dynamic, appealing to fans of fuller-bodied and bolder whites who enjoy the rounder mouthfeel. All in all, this Sauvignon Blanc shines through as a refreshing, wonderfully drinkable white wine.



## TECHNICAL DATA

**APPELLATION** | NAPA VALLEY  
**VARIETAL** | 100% SAUVIGNON BLANC  
**VINEYARD SOURCE** | TOFANELLI VINEYARD  
**CLONES** | MUSQUE  
**AGING** | 10 MONTHS  
**COOPERS** | 25% ERMITAGE, 75% STAINLESS  
**ALCOHOL** | 14.1%  
**BOTTLING DATE** | JUNE 2021  
**PRODUCTION** | 110 CASES  
**WINEMAKER** | THOMAS RIVERS BROWN



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