



Sauvignon Blanc 2009

COLUMBIA VALLEY

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Showcasing the cooler climate and the purity of Yakima Valley fruit, the 2009 Sauvignon Blanc expresses aromas of ripe melon, peach and honeysuckle with subtle hints of fresh herbs which add complexity. Fresh peach and melon continue on the palate supported by minerality and lively acidity. The finish is dry but rich and fruit laden.

VITICULTURIST'S NOTES

Spring Creek Vineyard, a cool site located on the edge of Spring Creek Canyon, provided a third of the grapes for this year's blend. The remainder came from growers and sites that the family has worked with for decades. We use a VSP trellis system (Vertical Shoot Positioning) to create a healthy, elevated canopy that maximizes both photosynthesis and airflow. Well-timed leaf removal and multiple thinning passes are two key tools that we use to ensure that we consistently produce world class Sauvignon Blanc grapes.

GROWING SEASON

2009 was an excellent vintage characterized by a long, warm growing season with none of the typical heat spikes of summer. This allowed the grapes to ease into an early harvest and achieve perfect ripeness. Eastern Washington's cool nights allow for retention of acidity to maintain balance and freshness.

WINEMAKING

The grapes were harvested at night when cooler then went directly to the press without crushing and were gently squeezed to minimize the extraction of any bitter compounds from the skins. The resulting juice was inoculated with VL3 yeast. Most of the juice (82%) was fermented cool in stainless steel to help preserve the varietal flavors of Sauvignon Blanc. The remaining (18%) was fermented in new American Oak barrels and aged for three months to add some oak spice and structure. The wine was blended then finished with a screwcap to help preserve the fruit flavors.

MERCER ESTATES

Mercer Estates is dedicated to producing distinctive wines through equal passions for grape growing and winemaking. With over 100 years of agricultural history in Horse Heaven Hills, Yakima Valley and Columbia Valley; we employ award winning, sustainable farming practices that ensure our wines express the true character of our vineyards. Get to know our winemaking families at www.mercerwine.com.

"Two spirited wine growing families that embody the flavor and soul of their lands".

TECHNICAL NOTES

Appellation Columbia Valley
Blend 100% Sauvignon Blanc
Alcohol 13.3%
T.A. 0.65 g/100 mL
pH 3.28

