



SAORSA

2020 VIOGNIER

CORNERSTONE VINEYARD

HAWKE'S BAY

VINEYARD- Located in the heart of Gimblett Road in Hawke's Bay. This vineyard is wildly stony. Soils laid down by the Ngaruroro River, natural bands of silt are streaked through the harsh gravels. The Cornerstone Vineyard is something special. The Viognier is the only white grape in the vineyard. The stones reflect a vast amount of light while providing a hostile growing environment perfect for keeping the wild growth and unruly behaviour of Viognier under control and retaining a small amount of heat when the temperature drops at night over the plains.

VINTAGE- 2020 will be a harvest we will always remember! A harvest of exceptional quality and almost perfect growing and ripening conditions, then matched with the extra challenges of Covid-19 right on harvest. Hawke's Bay saw a reasonably warm and dry winter season, which led to an early bud burst in the vineyards. The growing season was also warm and dry, with the theme in the vineyard running early throughout the entire season leading to a very early kick off to the start of harvest. The summer and Autumn period were long and dry, allowing us to pick when we wanted with no pressure from rain. 2020 saw perfect conditions across all varieties from early too late, with temperatures remaining warm but not excessively hot allowing for freshness and acid retention.

The pruning work in the vineyard in the past seasons have finally paid off, seeing the crop of the Cornerstone Vineyard returning to past levels and greater vine health. 2020 saw this vineyard picked the earliest in years. This was unique to this year with the harvest starting early and added harvest decisions based around the Covid-19 pandemic with lockdowns starting only a few days after our harvest.

VINIFICATION- Hand harvested 14th March and transported to the winery where the fruit was whole bunch pressed and run straight to barrel for indigenous fermentation without additions. Aged in neutral oak for 14 months before being transferred to tank for gravity settling. This harvest is the first time the wine has been filtered as it retained a light haze that struggled to settle out. Bottled with no fining and only a small addition of sulphur.

Alcohol- 14.0%

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