

## SAORSA

## 2021 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-** 2021 was a stunner! After two exceptional harvests in the years prior, we could not of foreseen one of this absolute quality. Again Hawke's Bay saw a warm and dry winter season continuing the drought conditions from the end of 2020 this led to an extremely early bud burst in the vineyards. The growing season was also warm and dry leading to one of the earliest starts to harvest we have ever seen. The summer and Autumn period were long and dry, allowing us to pick when we wanted with no pressure from rain. 2021 saw perfect conditions across all varieties from early too late, with acidity being the best seen in years.

**VINIFICATION-** Hand harvested 25<sup>th</sup> March and transported to the winery where the fruit was whole bunch pressed and run straight to large format 500L Puncheon barrels for indigenous fermentation without any additions. Aged in neutral oak for 16 months before being transferred to tank for gravity settling. Bottled with no fining or filtration and only a small addition of sulphur. Bottled 13 December 2022.

Alcohol- 13.5%