

Mahi



Mahi, meaning 'our work, our craft', began in 2001, fulfilling a dream of ours. After 15 vintages it was time to do our own thing. With a strong focus on single-vineyard wines, and now backed up by a series of premium regional wines from Marlborough, the idea behind Mahi is to respect and promote the individuality of the various vineyards.

The Mahi symbol represents the strength, life and growth of the native New Zealand frond (fern), with the understanding that wine should never be rushed to bottle, respecting its ability to evolve naturally over time.



2017 Mahi Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc

This wine shows an array of fruit characters, ranging from citrus through to tropical notes.

This is complemented by some secondary characters from the natural yeast ferments and also some barrel aging. The palate has an elegant structure with a creamy, textural mid-palate and a long finish.

Varieties:	Sauvignon Blanc
Winegrowing team:	Brian Bicknell, Pat Patterson, our focussed growers and brilliant vintage staff
Alcohol:	13.0%
Total Acidity:	7.8 g/l
Residual Sugar:	2.5 g/l
Harvest Period:	3 rd – 21 st April 2017

Winemaking details

The focus with this wine is to provide a drink that has texture and depth, rather than focussing solely on primary fruit notes. We want a wine that satisfies across the palate and employ a number of techniques to achieve this.

Our Sauvignon this year comes from seven different vineyards, all of them giving particular attributes to the final wine.

The hand-picked fruit was whole-cluster pressed so that the time on skins was minimised. A portion of this juice, 7% this year, was barrel-fermented in older French oak to give greater weight, though ensuring that wood is not evident on the nose. The balance of the wine was fermented cool to retain the fruit characters from our vineyards. The native ferment portion, 22%, also adds levels of flavour and texture, giving a savoury note that balances some sweeter fruit.

The final blend was made solely from free-run juice, as we feel it gives a more elegant and subtle wine, a key for us.

Vintage

There are a number of distinguishing characteristics about this vintage, with the first being that it was one of our latest starts to date. Temperatures were not particularly low but the sunshine hours, especially in March had been a bit lower which slowed the process of photosynthesis.

This year we harvested at slightly lower Brix than usual to make sure that the fruit was clean and aromatic rather than leaving it out to go through the tail ends of both Cyclone Debbie and Cook.

Because of this something like 85% of the harvest came in over a relatively short period so there were a few long days and nights.

The ferments were super aromatic and it was a year that gentle fruit handling and lower crop levels were appreciated, and one that really showed the value of having our own winery.

