

Noble Hill Sauvignon Blanc 2013

In 2013 our Sauvignon Blanc explodes with gooseberry, fresh coriander and green apple aromas. There are some tropical notes, too, reminiscent of orange blossom and guava. The entry is cool, smooth and juicy with a creamy natural acidity. The finish is crisp and balanced.

variety : Sauvignon Blanc | 100% Sauvignon Blanc

winery : Noble Hill Wine Estate

winemaker : Bernard le Roux

wine of origin : Western Cape

analysis : alc : 13.3 % vol rs : 4.9 g/l pH : 3.09 ta : 6.9 g/l

type : White **style :** Dry

pack : Bottle **size :** 750ml **closure :** Screwcap

in the vineyard :

We grow four hectares of Sauvignon Blanc, planted on one of the farm's highest-elevation sites. The vineyard looks out over the Franschhoek Valley with awesome views of the town of Paarl and the Drakenstein mountains. We don headlamps to pick fruit in the cool morning hours and bring it to the cellar in shallow lug boxes designed to prevent the fruit from getting smushed on the ride down.

Duplex soils with high clay content are perfect for the clone planted here which tends to produce a racy, steely, and structured wine. We usually choose to blend our estate production with a non-estate component to add subtle tropical characters and complexity. In 2012 we sourced grapes from friends in Elgin and Durbanville and the end product therefore carries the broader Western Cape appellation.

about the harvest: There was quite a bit of rainfall in the winter and early spring of 2012 but pleasant weather during flowering resulted in good fruit set. Slow ripening resulted a relatively late harvest date for some of the vineyards.

in the cellar : Sauvignon Blanc is all about retaining the light, refreshing, and ultimately elusive flavours contained in the skins. We aim for a light extraction before pressing, keeping the juice on the skins for a few extra minutes before going to tank.

