

2009 Sauvignon Blanc Napa Valley Estate Grown

100% Sauvignon Blanc
90% Musque Clone
Sommerston Vineyard, Napa Valley

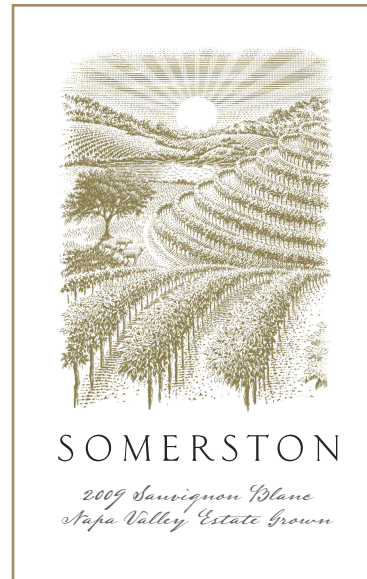
ALCOHOL: 14.9%

TOTAL ACID: 6.1 g/l pH: 3.38

BRIX AT HARVEST: 25.5

CASES PRODUCED: 250

RELEASE DATE: April 2011



WINE GROWING

The 2009 growing season produced a superb vintage, by yielding lush ripe fruit with perfect acid structure. Vintners throughout Napa Valley proclaimed 2009 a classic and spectacular vintage. The growing season had no real heat spikes and the fruit had perfect phenolic maturity and ripeness without excessive sugar. Across all varietals we found exceptionally bright flavors and depth in color. Neither the grapes nor the vines experienced any stress, desiccation, or sunburn, just great hang time and balanced sugars to acid all around. We were able to make wine this year on an even and relaxed pace. Harvest, which was predicted to be quite early, started just a little ahead of normal, with all the grapes harvested by September 2nd. The small yellow clusters were picked in the early morning, whole-cluster pressed and fermented in 40% New French oak and 60% neutral French oak. The wine was barrel aged sur lie for six months with two stirrings per month, and bottled in September 2010.

TASTING NOTES

Yields of Sauvignon Blanc and Sauvignon Musque were perfect, resulting in a wine that displays all the characteristics that we expect from this great vineyard site. The mineral nose shows bright tropical notes of mango, grapefruit and citrus, while on the palate, delicious fruit flavors of poached pear, vanillin and grilled citrus fruit are highlighted by light oak texture and a long, persistent finish.

Winemaker / Craig Becker notes:

This wine is expressive of the Sommerston terroir in its clean, luscious flavors and medium-bodied density, perfectly balanced by bright acidity and hints of citrus and integrated oak.