



OAK VALLEY

Oak Valley *Fountain of Youth* Sauvignon Blanc 2016

In 1898, Sir Antonie Viljoen, the founder of Oak Valley, discovered a crystal clear fresh water spring on the lower foothills of the Groenlandberg mountain range soon after his purchase of the property. So good was this water that Sir Antonie had it piped over many miles to his home and proclaimed it the *Fountain of Youth*. The spring adjoins our present-day mountain vineyard which produce some of our finest Sauvignon Blanc.

Technical Notes

Fruit is harvested from two vineyard sites. First, the south-facing mountain block (3.2ha) planted in 2004. The high elevation ($\pm 460\text{m}$) leads to delayed ripening up to 2 weeks later than our lower Sauvignon blocks. Second, the lower ($\pm 320\text{m}$) south-facing hillside block (5.14ha) planted in 2007. Stylistically the two blocks differ greatly, each complimentary in the final blend. The mountain fruit is more austere, whilst the hillside bursts with an abundance of up front fleshy fruit flavours. Grapes are harvested early morning and chilled to 7°C . Bunches are hand sorted, de-stemmed and crushed. Selected parcels undergo a period of skin contact in tank to enhance flavour extraction, the remainder goes straight to press. Fermentation in tank occurs at $12-16^{\circ}\text{C}$ until dry to retain beautiful tropical fruit. The wine is left on the gross lees for 12 weeks to broaden the mouth feel.

Styling

Oak Valley '*Fountain of Youth*' Sauvignon Blanc expresses fruit aromas of passion fruit, white peach and litchi with a slight herbaceous undertone. Flavours of passion fruit persist on the palate, particularly granadilla, lemons, white pear, gooseberry and a lovely saline finish that reminds one of fresh oyster shells or sea salt.

Wine Analysis

Alcohol	13.5%
Total acidity	6.0 g/l
pH	3.26
Volatile acid	0.42 g/l
Residual sugar	1.8 g/l

Vineyard

Aspect	South-west facing slopes
Elevation	420m (hillside) / 460m (mountain)
Soil type	Medium texture gravelly soils
Clones	SB9, SB11, SB133, SB159, SB161, SB316, SB317
Rootstock	R99, R110, 101-14, Ruggeri 140
Ha planted	8.36 ha
Irrigation	Drip irrigation, post-harvest mostly
Vines per ha	2500-3500 vines
Trellis system	Extended Perold
Harvest dates	15-25 February 2016

