



2012 STICKYBEAK SEMILLON SAUVIGNON BLANC

WINEMAKER :	Wayne Donaldson
REGION :	Sonoma County - Knights Valley and Russian River
VARIETALS :	Semillon (50%) Sauvignon Blanc (50%)
MATURATION :	Stainless steel
ALCOHOL :	13.5% alc/vol

VITICULTURE :

Semillon – The grapes are from the 27-year-old Knights Valley Ranch planting. Here the well drained, ancient Arbuckle gravelly loam soils provide vivacious fruit, full of lemongrass and citrus aromatics and outstanding concentration.

Sauvignon Blanc – From the cooler Mirabelle site on Westside Road in the foggy Russian River appellation, Stickybeak works with a mature vineyard that provided fruit to other star producers. The grape profile is steely, insanely aromatic and lifts the Semillon through the roof!

WINEMAKING :

The handpicked fruit is brought in at first light, naturally chilled by the cold valley air. In the winery, Winemaker Wayne Donaldson is pretty much hands off. The majority of the juice is fermented in stainless steel tanks with a neutral yeast to retain the fresh, lively characters of the two grape varietals. 5% of the Semillon was barrel fermented in second use French oak barriques to add a savory mid-palate texture.

TASTING NOTES :

The wine is smoky and flinty, with a fresh citrus palate. The generous mouth-feel is owed to partial barrel fermentation of the Semillon. Long, deep and quite succulent, the characters of pie baked stone fruit and meyer lemon persist through the clean finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM : 88 pts Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar

ABOUT THAT NAME . . . Stickybeak: Australian slang for 'nosey neighbor', or to be 'overly inquisitive'. After twenty years living in California's wine country while importing regional benchmarks from the Antipodes, our curious streak got the better of us. We searched for the best sites that the California wine-growing regions in our backyard have to offer, and the grape varieties that best express their individuality. Whether its Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc from Sonoma's Russian River Valley or Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir, our wines are hand-crafted, authentic expressions of the land they come from.



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