

## 2023 SONOMA VALLEY 'EARLY MORNING SURPRISE' 'SAUVIGNON BLANC'

Wine Creeifeetiene



Wine Specifications:	
Sonoma Valley, Castle Vineyard	
Sauvignon Blanc	
9/30/23	
3/19/24	
68 cases	
13.6%	
6 months in neutral oak barrels	
6.5 g/l	
3.16	
94 Points	
\$44	

## Winemaker's Comments:

**Vineyard:** Our 2023 Sonoma Valley 'Early Morning Surprise' Sauvignon Blanc is an exciting debut from our young Castle vineyard, planted in 2021 with three distinct clones: Clone 530 for intense tropical and herbal aromas, Clone 30 for zesty citrus acidity, and Clone 1 for balanced fruitiness and herbal complexity. This inaugural vintage marks the vineyard's second leaf, promising even greater things to come.

**Harvest/Winemaking:** In a serendipitous twist, half a ton of our Sauvignon Blanc Castle vineyard grapes arrived unexpectedly at our winemaking facility on September 30, 2023, at 5:30 am. This early morning arrival became the inspiration behind the wine's name, 'Early Morning Surprise' Sauvignon Blanc. Despite the surprise, our innovative winemaking team seized the opportunity for experimentation. The grapes underwent a unique process, including extended skin contact for over 48 hours before pressing and fermentation in neutral oak barrels. This approach preserved the wine's vibrant fruit character while enhancing texture and complexity. After aging, the wine was blended with select Sauvignon Blanc from our Little Horse vineyard before bottling.

**Description:** Our 'Early Morning Surprise' Sauvignon Blanc delights with crisp acidity and vibrant fruit flavors. Aromas of apple and passionfruit lead to a palate bursting with elderflower and orange blossom, balanced by zesty notes of lemon and lime. This wine is a testament to the potential of our Castle vineyard and the creativity of our winemaking team. Watch out for future vintages, as we continue to explore the full range of possibilities with our diverse clones and winemaking techniques.