

BEL ECHO

BEL ECHO SAUVIGNON BLANC

ORGANICALLY GROWN IN THE WAIRAU VALLEY OF MARLBOROUGH

"A voluptuous expression from our clay soil with stone fruits and chalky minerality"



WHAT IS BEL ECHO?

Bel Echo, (French for Beautiful Echo) is a terroir selection of our estate's less conventional soil type. We consider Bel Echo somewhat adventurous in style, representing the opposite or 'echo' of our more traditional Clos Henri wines.

VITICULTURE

Grown predominantly on our 2 clay blocks, this wine has more roundness and richness than Sauvignon on our river stone soils. The heavy clay soil naturally has good water retention and avoids excess vigour. Acting as a sponge, the clay holds excess water when it rains and releases it slowly to the vine when the soil is dry - this assists in a consistent and smooth grape ripening period.

WINEMAKING

The wine is fermented in stainless steel tanks to retain fruit elegance and flavour; it is then aged on fine yeast lees for six months with lees stirring. Lees stirring allows us to stabilise the wine naturally, fining the wine only once before a light filtration. Our objective is to reveal expressive aromas of tropical fruits, a chalky minerality and to get a round mouth feel, while keeping natural weight on the palate obtained from the clay.

TECHNICAL

Climate: Dry maritime with warm sunny days and cool nights.
Annual sunshine: 2443 hours
Average annual rainfall: <500 mm
Latitude: 41.3° south

Altitude: 85-150 metres above sea level

Soil: Broadbridge & Wither clays
Planting density: High at 4400 vines/ha

Yield: 8t/ha

Clones: MS

Rootstock: 101-14 & 3309

Vine age: 9-14 year old vines

Alcohol: 14%

Residual sugar: <1g/l

Total acidity: 6.3g/l

pH: 3.00

Ageing potential: 4-5 years from vintage

Wine match: Gurnard, asparagus and white wine risotto.

TASTING

Bel Echo Sauvignon preserves the typical minerality expression of our clay soil, evolving from salty to chalky minerality. This appealing minerality is well surrounded by juicy ripe tropical and stone fruits supported by a nice freshness. The mouth is round and rich offering a long and intense finish.

Clos Henri Vineyard

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Come taste our terroir...

