

ILLUMINATION



2014 SAUVIGNON BLANC

Desirous of a white wine from Quintessa that he could enjoy at home with friends and family, Agustin Huneus planted a half acre of Sauvignon Blanc at Quintessa in 2002. This small plot of vines lives in the alluvial soils near the river where airflow and cooler temperatures encourage the grapes to thrive. Sauvignon Blanc Musqué sourced from Quintessa and select vineyards, which are reputed to have original Loire Valley cuttings, is a key part of the blend by enhancing the aromatic complexity and richness to the wine. Winemaker Charles Thomas seeks out additional vineyards in southern Napa Valley and the Sonoma Coast that have hillside locations and cooler climates to ensure depth, intensity, fruit definition and minerality in the wines.



ORIGIN 62% Napa Valley, 38% Sonoma County

VARIETAL 52% Sauvignon Blanc Musqué,
32% Sauvignon Blanc, 16% Semillon

2014 VINTAGE NOTES This vintage began with a warm and dry winter, followed by a cool and blessedly wet early spring. Temperatures quickly rose late spring and early summer which pushed the vines to a very early start. Spring rains gave the vines sufficient water for good canopy development, and a cool August allowed the flavors to develop beautifully.

WINEMAKING The grapes were hand-picked and gently whole-cluster pressed, and the juice was fermented with mostly native yeast in a variety of vessels. French oak barrels (8% new) bring a depth to the body and a hint of oak spice while Acacia barrels add a complex floral spice on the nose. Egg-shaped concrete fermenters add richness to the palate while retaining fresh aromas and stainless steel barrels maintain the purity of the fruit. Semillon adds a round mouth-feel to complement the vibrant and tangy Sauvignon Blanc. Lees stirring enhances weight and complexity.

WINEMAKER NOTES (Charles Thomas, Winemaker) 2014 Illumination exudes bright tropical fruit aromas that intermingle with notes of fresh herbs, orange blossom and stone fruit. On the palate, a luscious interplay of exotic Asian pear, papaya, lime, orange zest and a hint of minerality. The finish is bright, creamy and refreshing.

ALCOHOL 14.2%

RELEASE June 2015