



# ASTROLABE

## 2020

### WREKIN VINEYARD

### SEC CHENIN BLANC

#### VARIETY

100% chenin blanc.

#### GRAPEGROWERS

Grown at Wrekin Vineyard  
by Jan and Andrew Johns.

#### LOCALITY

Upper Brancott Valley, Southern Valleys,  
Marlborough, New Zealand.

#### SPECIFICATIONS

Alcohol	13.0%
Residual sugar	6.5 g/l
Total acidity	7.2 g/l
pH	3.26

#### VITICULTURE

**Climate:** The 2019-2020 growing season was a little above average for temperature and growing degree days but cooler than the previous three seasons, which were all very high. The season was very dry, with only 43 mm (1.7 inches) of rain from 21 December to the end of harvest on 9 April. Budburst was five or six days early, and so was flowering. The dry season resulted in harvest coming in about ten days earlier than long term average. Where there was groundwater or drip irrigation, vines enjoyed good health and disease pressure was nil.

**Soils:** Some of the oldest in Marlborough, tight clays based on glacial outwash. The chenin block has a steep clay hillside with a northern aspect.

**Vine Management:** Standard trellis, with pruning to two to four canes and vertical shoot positioning. Vines are trimmed closely, well tucked and lightly leaf plucked.

**Harvest Date:** 1st and 8th April, 2020.

#### WINEMAKING

The organically grown fruit was hand-picked, whole-cluster pressed and tank fermented on light solids in stainless steel, using cultured yeast. The ferment was stopped before completion to retain sugar and balance the crisp acidity of the variety and the low pH from the extraction method. The resulting wine is long, fresh and drinkable, with a light spritziness to highlight the freshness of the style. Bottled 9th September, 2020.



Simon Waghorn - Winemaker  
Waghorn Family Wines