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ASTROLABEWINES.CO.NZ

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ASTROLABE

2021

GROVETOWN SPÄTLESE

RIESLING

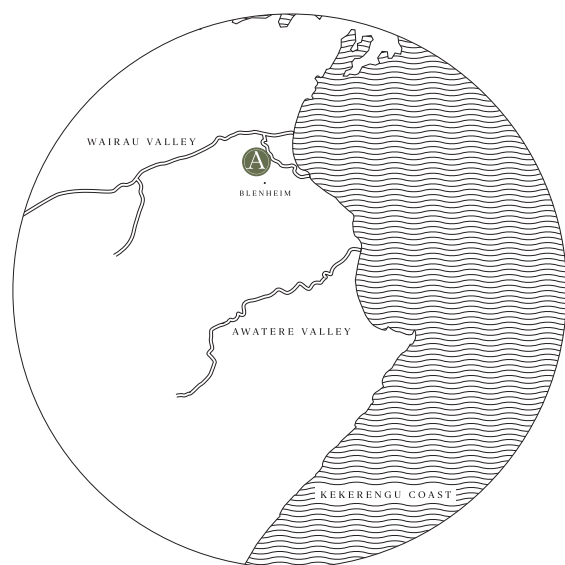
VARIETY
riesling

GRAPEGROWERS
Grown at Astrolabe Farm
by the Waghorn family.

LOCALITY
Grovetown, Wairau Valley,
Marlborough, New Zealand.

SPECIFICATIONS

Alcohol	8.5%
Residual sugar	58 g/l
Total acidity	8.6 g/l
pH	2.95



VITICULTURE

Climate: The 2020–2021 growing season was warmer than normal, though cooler than two of the recent very warm years of vintages 2018 and 2019. Little rain fell from December to late March, and water deficit conditions prevailed. Cold and wet Spring flowering conditions resulted in fewer berries per bunch and significantly reduced yields — about 70% of normal. Above average sunshine and heat, coupled with the light crop, gave a record early harvest. The vine canopies survived the arid weather, largely due to the light fruit load, and fungal disease was largely non-existent. Wines from the vintage tend to have good concentration.

Soils: Free-draining silty loam.

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: The 27th and 30th of March, 2021.

WINEMAKING
I took care to avoid phenolic extraction, with half the grapes handpicked and whole-cluster pressed, and only free run juice used in the winemaking. I fermented on light grape solids at cool temperature, stopping the ferment early to retain a low alcohol and medium sweetness held in balance by crisp acidity.

Bottled 15th July, 2021.

Simon Waghorn - Winemaker
Waghorn Family Wines