

## Crocker & Starr Sauvignon Blanc Napa Valley USA 2021

Selected by: Master Sommelier Evan Goldstein, Master Sommelier Madeline Triffon, and Master Sommelier Tim Gaiser



### Final Deductions

**VINTAGE** 2021  
**GRAPE** Sauvignon Blanc/Blend  
**GEOGRAPHY** Not Europe  
**COUNTRY** USA  
**LARGER REGION** California  
**SMALLER REGION** Napa Valley

### Rationale

Once a mainstay of the Napa Valley, Sauvignon Blanc today is increasingly rare due in large part to the value of the land and its birthright ability to produce exceptional Cabernet Sauvignon. Some refer to it as "Napa's other Sauvignon" (yes, Sauvignon Blanc is one of the two parents of Cabernet Sauvignon along with Cabernet Franc), but the finest examples of this wine are appreciated for what they are—prominent whites with complexity, texture, and a riper profile of the variety. Napa Valley Sauvignon Blanc aromas and flavors lean more toward ripe citrus (grapefruit, Meyer lemon) and melon, rather than pungent grassy and gooseberry notes. Napa's warmer macroclimate mitigates the aggressive, green pyrozinic side of the grape's personality. One can often find more Bordelais interpretations employing the use of oak and blending it with Semillon, as they would in France's southwest. The resulting wines are usually smoother and rounder than other bottlings from the North Coast of the Golden State.

In 1997, Charlie Crocker and Pam Starr established Crocker & Starr with the common goal of resurrecting the historic Crocker Vineyard Estate and creating world-class wines from its extraordinary terroir. Winemaker for the celebrated Spotswood winery from 1991 until going off on her own, Pam is known for her distinctive Bordeaux-style blends that express a deep sense of place so it should not be a surprise that C&S is known for its Bordelaise style, fruit-forward, and crisp Sauvignon Blanc notably riper, rounder, and richer than many other examples while not completely eschewing the signature pungency and bright citric flavors.

### Sight

**BRIGHTNESS** Star Bright  
**CLARITY** Clear  
**COLOR DEPTH** Medium  
**COLOR** Straw  
**HIGHLIGHTS** Green  
**BUBBLES** No

### Structure

**RESIDUAL SUGAR** Dry  
**ACID** Med+  
**ALCOHOL** Med+  
**PHENOLS** None  
**TEXTURE** Round / Smooth  
**FINISH** Long  
**COMPLEXITY** High

### Aroma & Taste

**CITRUS FRUIT** Lemon • Mandarin • Meyer Lemon • Orange *Condition: Fresh, Ripe, Custard / Yogurt*  
*Part: Flesh, Peel / Zest*

**TREE/VINE FRUIT** Apple (Green) • Pear (Asian) • Quince *Condition: Fresh*

**STONE FRUIT** Nectarine (White) • Peach (White) • Plum (Green/Yellow) *Condition: Fresh*

**TROPICAL FRUIT** Melon (Green) • Passion Fruit • Starfruit *Condition: Fresh, Ripe*

**FLORAL** Apple Blossom • Lemon / Lime Blossom *Condition: Fresh*

**GREEN VEGETABLE** Cucumbers • Olive (Green) • Spring Peas

**OTHER VEGETABLE** Ginger / Root • Mushrooms (White)

**HERBAL** Basil • Lemon Grass • Sorrel • Verbena

**OTHER SPICES** Ginger Powder • Sesame / Candy

**ORGANIC EARTH** Turned Dirt / Potting Soil

**INORGANIC EARTH** Mineral / Rock • Salinity / Seashell

**OAK AGING** Yes *Oak Intensity: Low*

**OAK INFLUENCE** Blended Oak

**OXIDATION/NUTTINESS** Cashew • Pinenut

**PERCEIVED WINEMAKING CHOICES** Lees Contact