



AMERICA'S GRAND WINE ESTATE

Rubicon Estate

2010 BLANCANEAUX



ABOUT THE WINE

Blancaneaux is a blend of Roussanne, Marsanne, and Viognier originating from the certified-organic vineyards at Rubicon Estate. Created in 1995 as a partner to Rubicon, the Estate's flagship red wine, Blancaneaux is produced each year in extremely limited quantities from the six and a half acres of white grapes grown on our property. All three of these grape varietals are from vines that are more than ten years old and now showing signs of maturity by revealing more profuse aromatics, richer textures, and complex flavors. The Marsanne and Roussanne contribute distinct mineral notes, weight and body to this wine, while our Viognier provides the blend with an intense bouquet of passion fruit, spice, and ginger. All of these varietals are grown at the base of Mt. St. John, where shade conditions lengthen the growing season and intensify the fruit's concentration.

VINTAGE

The 2010 season was long and slow due to cool spring temperatures. The fruit didn't reach full maturity until weeks later than normal and harvest was pushed out into late fall as a result. Because it wasn't until late in the year that the weather got warm, the grapes were left to hang on the vines much longer than normal. Although these conditions test our patience, extended hangtime enables the fruit to develop added flavor concentration—factors that create a more expressive wine.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Because our Marsanne and Roussanne vines have well over a decade of age now, they are producing wines with exceptional palate density as well as more flavor complexity and mineral characteristics. All the grapes were hand picked, lightly pressed and fermented between 50–55°F mostly in small stainless steel vessels to preserve the delicate fruit flavors yet also with a very small portion in French oak barrels for added complexity. The wine was aged sur lie for 6 months before blending and bottling, which contributes to the rich, creamy palate.

TASTING NOTES

This vintage of Blancaneaux shows pronounced aromas of apricot and pear interwoven with complex nuances of honeysuckle, ginger spice and mandarin orange blossoms. Flavors of apricot are well pronounced along mineral notes. The layered, creamy palate is balanced by lively citrus zest persisting on the finish.

APPELLATION:	RUTHERFORD, CA
BLEND:	ROUSSANNE, MARSANNE, VIOGNIER
VINEYARD:	SADDLE, APPLE
AGEING REGIMEN:	SUR LIE IN SMALL STAINLESS STEEL VESSELS AND FRENCH OAK BARRELS FOR 6 MONTHS
AVERAGE CASE PRODUCTION:	800 CASES
ALCOHOL:	14.5%
RELEASED:	MARCH 15, 2012