BEYOND Sauvignon Blanc 2015

Winemaker: Hermann Kirschbaum

Varietal Blend: 100% Sauvignon Blanc

Location: South Africa

Appellation: Coastal Region

Alcohol Content: 13.8%

TA: 6.5 g/l

pH: 3.28

RS: 3.4 g/l

VINEYARDS:
Long referred to as "Bayten" by locals, Buitenverwachting is located on the east-facing slopes of the Constantiaberg. Most of the fruit for this mouthwatering Sauvignon hails from Bayten’s estate vineyards, which are planted in soils of Clovelly and Tukulu, both forms of decomposed granite. The vineyards are dry farmed and range in age from 7-21 years. Breezes sweeping in from False Bay, a mere 7.5 miles away, make it one of South Africa’s coolest winegrowing areas.

A small portion of the blend is sourced from other cool climate sites in the Durbanville, Walker Bay and Stellenbosch regions.

VINTAGE:
2015 marked one of the earliest vintages on record, with Sauvignon Blanc grapes coming in two weeks earlier than usual. Quality was exceptional – one of the Cape’s finest vintages! Following a cold, wet winter, which allowed the vines to rest properly, an early spring kick-started the growing season. Weather was ideal throughout the ripening period, with warm days, cool nights and none of the typical heat waves. Extremely dry conditions throughout the harvest period meant very healthy bunches with smaller berries than usual, leading to concentrated yet elegant wines with crisp, attractive fruit and great palate weight.

VINIFICATION AND MATURATION:
The handpicked grapes were crushed and the juice was left in contact with the skins for approximately 12 hours before pressing. A long, cool fermentation took place in stainless steel tanks at 57-61°F over a period of 21 days.

TASTING NOTES:
This livewire bottling is crafted by Bayten (short for Buitenverwachting, which is Dutch for “beyond expectation”) – a Sauvignon specialist recognized for their elegant, mineral-tinged whites. Beyond offers tremendous bang for the buck, consistently earning “Best Buy”/“Best Value” accolades. Bursting with zesty flavors of passion fruit, melon, kiwi and lime backed by pronounced herbal notes and a mineral edge, it displays an elegance typical of cool climate Sauvignon Blanc.