



Michael Cooper's Buyer's Guide

FEBRUARY 2023

Cape Crest Sauvignon Blanc '21



This oak-aged Hawke's Bay label is impressive for its ripely herbal, complex, sustained flavours. Most of the grapes are hand-picked in the company's relatively warm Bullnose Vineyard, inland from Hastings (the rest is grown at Woodthorpe, in the Dartmoor Valley), and the blend includes small proportions of Sémillon (to add longevity) and Sauvignon Gris (which contributes weight and mouthfeel). The wine is fully fermented and lees-aged for eight to eleven months in French oak barriques (partly new). Bright, light lemon/green, the 2021 vintage (5★) is a richly fragrant, mouthfilling wine, with concentrated, ripe, tropical fruit flavours, finely integrated oak adding complexity, and a very harmonious, long finish. A distinctive, delicious wine, drinking well now, it should be at its best 2024+.

Super Classic

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