

## CALIFORNIA SAUVIGNON BLANC

Fresh, expressive and aging beautifully, the best wines are gaining consumer attention

## Wine Spectator

WINE FOCUS





It's hard to imagine California Sauvignon Blanc being where it is without the work of previous winemaking generations, namely Robert Mondavi, who did his best to champion the grape. Dry Creek Vineyard's David Stare was another early adopter of Sauvignon Blanc in the state. His daughter, Kim Stare Wallace, explains how her father first planted it in 1972 against advice to plant Gamay or French Colombard instead.

"We've been making this wine for over 50 years," says Stare Wallace. "It's so well-suited for the types of cuisines that people are interested in-people tend to eat healthier, maybe a little lighter, compared to the way people ate in the '70s and '80s."

The Dry Creek portfolio now includes four different bottlings of Sauvignon Blanc (including two vineyard designates) and a Bordeaux-inspired blend. She adds, "It's been a lot of hard work, but we've also been very fortunate that that was the varietal that we chose to pioneer 50 years ago and never left."

## ▼ Dry Creek

## **SMART BUY**

Fume Blanc Sonoma County 2023 | \$21



Fragrant, expressive and distinctive, with plenty to admire among the lemongrass, lemon verbena and lemon-lime flavors at the core. Shows accents of green tea and lemon balm, plus a hint of orange sherbet, all on a sleek frame.

Drink now. 40,000 cases made. ~ MaryAnn Worobiec

