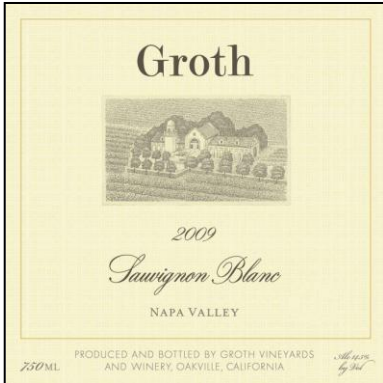




**Groth**  
VINEYARDS & WINERY  
*Rooted in Oakville*

## NAPA VALLEY



**Vintage:** “Mellow” is a great word for the white grape harvest in 2009. Long, steady periods of moderate temperatures ripened the Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc grapes in such a way that high sugars were not an issue. The lack of excessive heat and heat spikes allowed us to make wines at more moderate alcohols while still retaining a tremendous amount of fruitiness and acidity. A great year for whites!

**Harvest:** Our 2009 Sauvignon Blanc was produced from grapes grown in various microclimates of the Napa Valley. The warmer Napa Valley microclimates give us grapes that result in wines with a lush, full melon/citrus character in the aroma and in the flavor. The cooler Napa Valley fruit provides a solid, crisp backbone that gives the wine an exciting liveliness that balances the rich creaminess from "sur lie" aging.

**Winemaking:** All of the Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon was whole cluster pressed. Whole cluster pressing gives us juice of incredibly high fruitiness and softness. After pressing and settling, 70% of the juice was moved to small oak barrels where it was put through a long, cool fermentation. Within two weeks, the wine fermented to dryness and the wines were allowed to age "sur lie" for a total of five months in the small oak barrels. These barrels are experienced (4-8 years old) and completely inert. This pressing, fermentation and aging program adds rich complexity to the aromas and flavors.

**Menu suggestion:** “One of our favorite family meals with Sauvignon Blanc comes from Kimball Jones, our Culinary Director, and family member. The mineral and herb flavors of Sauvignon Blanc marry nicely with grilled fish or chicken. Add to this a puree of cauliflower and leeks and you have a memorable meal. The cauliflower and leeks are cooked in chicken or fish stock. Drained and pureed with a little lemon juice, salt, pepper, and a little butter this makes a beautiful presentation for the fish or chicken. The citrus and stone fruit flavors of the wine are enhanced. This dish is truly something that the entire family can enjoy together.” Judy Groth

### Key Points

- Napa Valley
- Sauvignon Blanc 96%, Semillon 4%
- 70% Barrel fermented , aged sur lie for five months, 30% stainless steel fermented

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