



BOUCHARD FINLAYSON  
A BOUTIQUE VINEYARD

## BLANC DE MER 2021

Blanc de Mer offers more than it portrays, and its Riesling pedigree boasts a strong personality. It is an unusual blend from the Cape, where Riesling is virtually unknown as a blending partner. The name Blanc de Mer translates to 'white of the sea'. Taking its inspiration from the estate's proximity to Hermanus, where Southern Right whales calve during the late winter until early spring.

### VINTAGE

It's been remarked before how the weather, during recent odd vintages, seems to behave to the benefit of local vintners. 2021 followed this pattern of 2019, 2017 and 2015. Yields varied significantly between cultivars and apart from a big rain event on 14 March, dry and cool conditions prevailed during picking. Phenolic ripeness outperformed sugar accumulation in the berries, resulting in juices with low potential alcohol and balanced natural acidities.

### VINIFICATION

While estate-grown Riesling forms the basis of this unique blend, Viognier from various grower vineyards have contributed over the years – from the Overberg, Stellenbosch and even Upper Hemel-en-Aarde Valley. A mature vineyard in Elgin, with a significant granitic soil component, is currently delivering consistent results. Before pressing, all grapes are destemmed and fermented in a cool environment without oak. Sauvignon Blanc makes a return to the blend, mostly for aromatic diversity and palate refreshment.

### TASTING NOTES

Typical youthful floral aromas precede a tight, vertically focussed palate. Flinty and mouth-watering acidity slices through delicious bright pineapple and nectar flavours, enlivening the senses. It will take time for the characteristic wet stone and kerosene details of Riesling to develop in the bottle.

### FOOD PAIRING

Effortless drinking qualities make the Blanc de Mer a popular aperitif, however it's suitability to fresh seafood is unmatched – think Thai red prawn curry, bouillabaisse or simply oysters. The wine will also complement any picnic basket, packed for a whale watching excursion around the world renowned Walker Bay.



### VARIETAL

54% Riesling, 22% Viognier,  
19% Chardonnay, 5% Sauvignon Blanc

### WINE OF ORIGIN

Cape South Coast

### PRODUCTION

1410 x 12 bottle cases

### ANALYSIS

Alcohol:	12.75 vol%
Total Acidity:	6.8 g/l
Residual Sugar:	4.0 g/l
pH:	3.22
Volatile Acidity:	0.32 g/L
Total So2:	101 mg/L
Allergens:	Sulphites
Suitable for Vegans	