

# Lail Vineyards

## 2002 Georgia



PROPRIETORS: The Lail Family—Robin, Jon, Erin, and Shannon

THE WINE: 100% Sauvignon Blanc

BARRELS: 100% new French oak

WINEMAKER: Philippe Melka

PRODUCTION: 170 cases

VINEYARDS: Yountville

RELEASE DATE: June, 2004

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Lail Vineyards traces its Napa Valley origins back five generations to the founding of Inglenook by our great-grand-uncle Gustav Niebaum in 1879. Continuing the family's quest for excellence, we aspire to produce some of the finest wines in the world.

This is the inaugural release of Georgia, Lail Vineyard's 2002 Sauvignon Blanc. This Graves-like wine celebrates the arrival of the first member of the sixth generation of our family in Napa Valley – Georgia Eileen Dixon.

Georgia is produced in the Bordeaux tradition, fermented and aged in all new French oak. It is a breakaway from the traditional California Sauvignon Blancs and is made very similar to our proprietary reds. The grapes were gently sorted and pressed the day of harvest, and the resulting juice was placed in all new French oak barrels. The barrels were carefully treated to avoid overpowering oak flavors with a special technique called "immersion". The juice fermented for 7 weeks at low temperatures and then was racked off the heavy lees. Aging continued in oak on thin lees for 18 months. The wine did not go through malolactic fermentation. Georgia was bottled on April 12th with no filtration or filtering.

Our winemaker Philippe Melka finds that the nose reveals power, the mouth is harmonious, full with layers of honey, vanilla cream, wet stones, lemon, grapefruit, and sweet bananas. The finish is vibrant and full of energy. Robert Parker said it is "potentially one of the most serious Sauvignon Blancs to emerge from California" and rated it a 91-93.