

**Steven Kent Winery****2006 Sauvignon Blanc, Ghilmetti Vineyard  
(Livermore Valley)**

How do you improve on an already great Sauvignon Blanc? Put a screw cap on it. That's precisely what Steven Mirassou and company did for the second vintage of this utterly captivating crisp, yet perfectly unstarched, white wine. The fruit again comes from Steven Mirassou's partner Mike Ghilmetti's vineyard in Livermore, hence it qualifies as "estate." The Sauv Blanc clones planted here are 317 and 376.

The grapes were picked at the peak of acid/flavor perfection, cold stabilized for 48 hours and then spent 6 months in stainless, undergoing no ML. The color is pale as a spring day: it makes you feel cool and refreshed just looking at it. The aromas are entrancingly complex, filled with lime zest, peaches, teases of gooseberry, crisp pear and hints of honeysuckle and clover. On the palate, it's tree-ripened peach, lime and then a hint of grapefruit, and then, voila! The finish is oozing white peaches and nectarines that keeps coming on like gangbusters. The acid is even more refreshing than in the 2005.

I loved this wine last year and this is no exception: for sure, one of the best SB's you'll find from Livermore or anywhere in California, for that matter. Be sure to serve this one well-chilled, and get ready for a truly rewarding experience.

Reviewed July 25, 2007 by [Laura Ness](#).

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**THE WINE**

**Winery:** [Steven Kent Winery](#)  
**Vineyard:** Ghilmetti Vineyard  
**Vintage:** 2006  
**Wine:** Sauvignon Blanc  
**Appellation:** [Livermore Valley](#)  
**Grape:** Sauvignon Blanc  
**Price:** \$20.00

**THE REVIEWER****Laura Ness**

A wine writer and wine judge for major publications and competitions around the country, Laura Ness likens wine to the experience of music. She is always looking for that ubiquitous marriage of rhythm, melody, and flawless execution. What is good music? You

know it when you get lost in it. What is good wine? It is music in your mouth.