



STARMONT

WINERY AND VINEYARDS

2018 Napa Valley Merlot

From the time Starmont first appeared on a label in 1989, the name has been recognized for classically styled varietal wines that are expressive and approachable. Now, 30 years later, led by Winemaker Jeff Crawford Starmont is producing some of their best wines ever as part of the Merryvale Family of Wines. Focused on sustainability and making the highest quality wines, the Stanly Ranch Estate Vineyard has been Napa Green Certified since 2007.

Winemaking

All of the fruit was handpicked and hand sorted. Each vineyard was fermented separately and spent from 15 to 22 days on the skins. The wine will age for 12 months in French oak barrels from Quintennence, Cavin and Bossuet (33% new and 67% neutral). The wine is scheduled to be bottled in December 2019.

Wine Notes

This Merlot is a blend of wine lots from three top vineyards located in the cooler, southern part of the Napa Valley. Two are in the Coombsville AVA from sites featuring volcanic soils that bring freshness to the blend with a nice backbone of acidity. The third is from a rocky, hillside vineyard in Atlas Peak, providing dark fruit aromas and long, resolved tannins on the palate.

The wine shows aromas of blackberry, cigar box, and geranium. On the palate it starts soft and round, with a fresh mid-palate, and has well-balanced acidity and tannins with a long finish that resolves nicely. Although quite approachable, it holds enough complexity to evolve in the glass sip after sip.

<i>AVA:</i>	<i>Napa Valley</i>
<i>Composition:</i>	<i>85% Merlot, 15% Malbec</i>
<i>Alcohol:</i>	<i>14.8%</i>
<i>TA:</i>	<i>6.2 g/L</i>
<i>pH:</i>	<i>3.64</i>