

AVA: Brown Ranch,

Block G1, Carneros
Composition: 100% Pinot Noir
Alcohol: 14.5% by volume

*TA*: 5.9 g/L pH: 3.78 *Production*: 185 cases



## 2017 Pinot Noir Brown Ranch

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, nearly 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

Hand harvested on September 4th, these grapes were carefully sorted in the field and at the winery. Fermented in an open top tank after a 5-day cold soak, the wine underwent a 4-day native fermentation with 6 days extended maceration. It was racked twice and spent 9 months on primary lees and another 9 months on light lees. This is a 8-barrel blend, all of which was aged in 100% French oak barrels, 40% new and 60% neutral. Careful attention is taken to match oak and toast to the vineyard and wine traits—restrained to push the fruit's character forward and respect the vineyard site. Comprised entirely of Pommard Clone, just 185 cases were produced. The wine was bottled without fining.

## Wine Notes

The Brown Ranch Pinot Noir is a rich, concentrated Pinot Noir, with notes of cranberry and cinnamon on the nose along with dark plum. A generous entry on palate with a lush mid-palate elevated by noticeable but soft tannins ending with a concentrated focus. The tannins and weight that are characteristic of the Brown Ranch Pinot Noir will help this wine age gracefully for the next 6+ years.