



*AVA:* Reinke Vineyards,  
Carneros  
*Composition:* 100% Pinot Gris  
*Alcohol:* 12.5% by volume  
*TA:* 8.9 g/L  
*pH:* 3.15



# STARMONT

WINERY AND VINEYARDS

## 2018 Pinot Gris Carneros

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

Handpicked on September 7th, the grapes were whole cluster pressed. A combination of press fractions was used, 25% from the 1st fraction, 50% from the 2nd fraction, and 25% from the 3rd fraction. The wine was 100% barrel fermented with twice monthly lees stirring for the first 4 months; then monthly for 6 months. The wine did not undergo malolactic fermentation and was racked off primary lees after 6 months, then racked again for bottling. This 4 barrel blend saw 80% lighter used French oak Cigar barrels, 20% thrice used French oak Cigar barrels and 20% neutral French oak barrels, and was aged for 10 months.

### Wine Notes

This is a unique expression of Pinot Gris, not meant to fit into conventional examples of this varietal. This is a program designed for those who will appreciate the development of this wine over time and understand it is not made for instant gratification. A clean fermentation with no malolactic fermentation, no new oak, and impressive verve on the palate it is the culmination of a particular varietal from a particular site creating this singular expression. This wine was built for cellaring. With bright, mouth-watering acidity, it will be wound extremely tight in its youth. With time the fresh citrus and floral notes will start to develop and take on hints of honey-suckle and start to soften and round on the palate. Ready to drink starting in 2021, it will continue to develop for a decade to come (and even longer for those willing to wait)!