



# STARMONT

WINERY AND VINEYARDS

## 2018 Viognier Stanly Ranch Estate

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

The grapes were hand-harvested on October 8th and carefully sorted direct to whole-cluster press to preserve freshness. Native fermentation was done in 75-gallon stainless steel drums to retain a focused purity of the varietal and the site, with only occasional lees stirring. Malolactic fermentation was inhibited to retain acidity and balance the dense mouthfeel of this wine. The wine was aged on primary lees for 7 months then racked (blended) and put back down to stainless drums to age for another 3 months, for a total of 10 months.

### Wine Notes

Sourced exclusively from our Stanly Ranch Estate Vineyard in Carneros, our goal for this wine is purity of site highlighting structure and finish. The grapes are picked ripe in order to allow turpines to develop which show themselves as peach and cantaloupe aromas and flavors. The wine underwent an extremely long fermentation, about 5 months, which adds layers of complexity to the flavors and aromas of apricot, peach and subtle white flowers. Vibrant acidity and succulent texture lead to a persistent finish of stone fruit and flinty minerality. Overall, the refreshing acidity, creamy texture and intensity of fresh fruit combine to create a balanced, elegant version of this noble variety.

*AVA:* Stanly Ranch Estate,  
Carneros  
*Composition:* 100% Viognier  
*Alcohol:* 14.5% by volume  
*TA:* 6.5 g/L  
*pH:* 3.42