



STARMONT

VINEYARDS

THE RISE OF THE CLONES



Pinot Noir Grape Bunch

In 1942, wine producer Louis M. Martini purchased the old Stanly Ranch and began a replanting effort. By the 1970s, Carneros had more than 1,300 acres of vineyard and was developing a reputation for quality Pinot Noirs from this cool-climate region. Over the years, UC Davis has conducted ongoing clonal trials to determine the best Pinot Noir grapes for the various areas within the Carneros AVA.

Starmont Winemaker Jeff Crawford has captured different clonal characteristics with his Single Vineyard Pinot Noir Selections, and this month's shipment includes two vintages of the Brown Ranch Pinot Noir which features the Pommard Clone.

The Pommard Clone originated from vines at Château de Pommard imported in 1951 by UC Davis Professor Harold Olmo. The clusters and berries are bigger than those found on the Dijon clones and have broader 'shoulders'. The Pommard Clone produces wines with dark color and pronounced tannin structure, that tend to show an earthy character on the nose. We find our Brown Ranch Pinot to be the most concentrated of the bottlings, with rich, dark fruit flavors. Cheers!

Fall "My Choice" Wine Selections

2020 Sauvignon Blanc: *Notes of lemongrass, guava and honeydew melon with a bright freshness and lingering finish.*

2016 Pinot Noir, Lee Vineyard: *Delicate notes of rose petals and red cherry—silky finesse and wonderful balance.*

2017 Pinot Noir, Stanly Ranch Estate: *Complex and rich, made exclusively from Dijon Clone 667.*

2018 Cabernet Sauvignon: *Rich and balanced with notes of blackberries, cassis and dark chocolate.*



2017 CHARDONNAY, STANLY RANCH ESTATE

The goal of this wine is to showcase our Stanly Ranch Estate Vineyard. The 2017 displays aromas of apricot, nectarine, and poached pear, creating an inviting bouquet. With nice weight on the palate—coming short of being too heavy—this wine shows creaminess on the mid-palate pointing to the lees management during fermentation and barrel aging, which is all braced by zippy acidity.

Food Pairing

Pair this Chardonnay with Grilled Nectarine Salad with Arugula, Prosciutto, and Corn.

Ageability

This wine will drink well for the next 4-7 years.

Retail: \$45

"Build a Case": \$432 (\$36/bottle)



2017 SYRAH, STANLY RANCH ESTATE

This Syrah is made in a Northern Rhône Côte-Rôtie style, co-fermented with a small percentage of whole cluster Viognier. The Syrah is fresh in style and the Viognier adds a floral note that helps to restrain the fruit and add complexity. The 2017 Starmont Stanly Ranch Estate Syrah is a rich wine that will develop more reductive, gamey notes with age.

Food Pairing

Try this Syrah with Grilled Five-Spice Chicken with Cucumber Peanut Salad.

Ageability

With proper cellaring, this wine will continue to gain complexity over the next 3-4 years.

Retail: \$45

“Build a Case”: \$432 (\$36/bottle)



2016 PINOT NOIR, BROWN RANCH

Rich and concentrated, the Brown Ranch Pinot Noir is consistently the most intense of the Starmont Pinot Noir bottlings. It offers notes of cranberry and dark plum with an earthy quality that is typical of the Pommard clone. The tannins and weight that are characteristic of the Brown Ranch Pinot Noir will help this wine age gracefully and develop even more complexity in the bottle.

Food Pairing

Crispy Chicken Thighs with Sweet Citrus Soy Sauce should pair nicely with this Pinot Noir.

Ageability

With proper cellaring, this wine will gain complexity for 5 years or more.

Retail: \$55

“Build a Case”: \$528 (\$44/bottle)



2015 PINOT NOIR, BROWN RANCH

A bit of an outlier for the Brown Ranch Pinot Noirs that we’ve bottled, the 2015 is a wine defined by its vintage. 2015 was the culmination of 5 years of drought resulting in small yields and a higher skin to juice ratio than usual. Winemaker Jeff Crawford noted that the 2015 was the most concentrated and richest of all the Brown Ranch Pinots he has made—just that much more of a good thing!

Food Pairing

Pair this wine with Slow-Roasted Pork Spare Ribs.

Ageability

With proper cellaring, this wine will drink well for the next 5-8 years.

Retail: \$55

“Build A Case”: \$528 (\$44/bottle)