

MERRYVALE

VINEYARDS

2020 Chardonnay

Stanly Ranch Estate, Carneros



Winemaking

Sourced from our Stanly Ranch Estate Vineyard, located on the Napa side of Carneros. A combination of classic Burgundian techniques and modern winemaking. Half the grapes were whole cluster pressed to used French oak barrels where the wine was fermented using native yeasts. The other half of the grapes were whole cluster pressed to concrete eggs where they fermented using a yeast strain isolated from a Grand Cru vineyard in Burgundy. Partial malolactic fermentation, minimal stirring, sur lie aging for 18 months and blended before bottling.

Vintage

The 2020 season will be remembered for factors beyond the normal measurements. It was a warm, dry winter and we didn't start to see rain and cold weather until the end of March. A mild spring season gave us a great early start, and summer brought very cool mornings and very warm days. This build-up to harvest was interrupted by two wildfires as we turned to the fall. The white wine harvest started in early August and the wines have developed excellently, reflecting the fine vintage year.

Tasting Notes

Exotic expressions of guava, lychee, and passionfruit are braced with brilliant acidity and stony minerality. Despite being lush and full, there is a lightness and length to the wine that intensifies as the wine opens. A complex and intriguing, immensely pleasurable Chardonnay that will continue to evolve. Enjoy alone or with a wide range of seafoods and chicken.

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| Appellation: | Carneros, Napa Valley |
| Blend: | 100% Chardonnay |
| Vineyard: | Stanly Ranch Estate Vineyard |
| Cooperage: | 50% neutral French Burgundy oak barrels, 50% concrete egg for 20 months |
| Alc: | 14.8% |
| PH: | 3.3 |

EST. 1988

