

MERRYVALE

VINEYARDS

2021 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 17 months and blended before bottling.

Vintage

The season started off with very little rain, leading to the 2nd year of drought conditions in Napa Valley and an early start to Harvest. While concerning in the long term, the drought of 2021 resulted in a more natural load on the vines, requiring less pruning and dropping of fruit. The resulting grapes are packed full of flavor. The smaller yields per vine and smaller berry size will result in another amazing vintage from Napa Valley.

Tasting Notes

The wine opens with a bouquet of fresh green apples, ripe pears, and citrus notes, offering a burst of vibrant fruit. There are delicate hints of white flowers, such as acacia and orange blossom, which add a layer of floral elegance. The palate is full but precise; there is a lifted quality and length to the wine that intensifies as it opens, unfolding layers of stone fruits and minerality tinged with salinity. The finish is long and refreshing, leaving a lasting impression of citrus and green apple, concluding with subtle, flinty minerality. The wine's bright acidity adds a zesty edge, making it a versatile option for pairing with various dishes. Enjoy now and over the next 5+ years.



Appellation:	Carneros, Napa Valley
Blend:	100% Chardonnay
Vineyard:	Stanly Ranch Estate Vineyard
Cooperage:	50% neutral French Burgundy oak barrels, 50% concrete tank for 17 months
Alc:	14.2%
PH:	3.2
TA:	8.4g/L

EST. 1988

