



AVA: Carneros
Composition: 100% Pinot Noir
Alcohol: 13.5% by volume
TA: 5.3 g/L
pH: 3.74



2017

Carneros Pinot Noir

Starmont Winery makes its home on a portion of the historic Stanly Ranch on the Napa side of Carneros that was established as a wine-growing region over 150 years ago. 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 Starmont Winery and surrounding estate vineyards have been Napa Green Certified since 2007.

Wine Notes

Ours is a regional expression of Carneros Pinot Noir sourced from multiple vineyards, from both Napa and Sonoma. This is a *selection masal* Pinot Noir, not meant to express a single clone or vineyard. The goal of this wine is to retain a varietal correctness with a sense of place. We really enjoy Carneros Pinot Noir, because although the fruit presents itself readily, there is an undercurrent of 'Pinot funk', and earthy element that adds complexity both on the nose and the palate. Judicious use of new oak, only about 20%, adds both to the nose and the texture of the wine, but still allows the fruit to be front and center. Dark garnet in color, the 2017 displays black cherry, ripe plum and earthy notes enhanced by toasty oak. Nice acidity, along with moderate weight and density, gives this wine outstanding balance and structure.

Winemaking

The fruit was handpicked then carefully sorted upon arrival at the winery. The wine underwent both native and inoculated fermentation and was fermented in both open closed top tanks. The wine was pressed, allowed to settle overnight and racked to barrels. Native secondary fermentation occurred in the barrel. The wine spent 11 months in French oak (approximately 20% new) and was bottled unfined.