

PROFILE

COLLECTION

2017 SILHOUETTE CHARDONNAY

BLEND

100% Chardonnay

APPELLATION

Carneros, Napa Valley

VINEYARD

- 90% Stanly Ranch Estate Vineyard
- 10% Hyde Vineyard

TA

7.6 g/L

PH

3.2

HARVEST DATE

September 5th

COOPERAGE

40% new Burgundy barrels from Tronçais, Jupilles and Fontainebleau forests in central France, light toast

ÉLEVAGE

16 months

ALCOHOL

14.0%



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WINEMAKING

Silhouette is a limited production white wine worthy of a collector's cellar. This hallmark Chardonnay captures the family's vision of crafting an old-world style white wine from Napa Valley. Each vintage, our very best Chardonnay fruit goes into the Silhouette bottling. For the 2017 vintage, the wine is comprised primarily of grapes grown on our Stanly Ranch Estate Vineyard with a small percentage from the neighboring Hyde Vineyard in Carneros. The grapes for Silhouette were handpicked at peak ripeness and hand sorted before being gently pressed until only one bar of pressure. The juices were cold settled overnight and then drained to barrel with maximum care to prevent oxidation. We were able to achieve native primary and malolactic fermentations in barrel. Total fermentation time was 10 months with malolactic happening at the same time as the alcoholic fermentation, enhancing integration of oak and flavors. The wine was aged for 16 months on full lies in 40% new French oak barrels.

VINTAGE

Abundant rains early in the year were followed by lots of filtered light in spring and early summer. Both bud break and flowering occurred a bit late, but under ideal weather conditions, creating plentiful

and even fruit set. Summer brought generous sun during the day and cooler marine influences. The relatively mild summer followed by extended fall sunshine and moderate heat created near-ideal conditions. A short heat spike at the end of August did not affect our vineyards as the vines were in beautiful shape. The result is a beautiful wine with great acidity and drinkability that we feel is one of the best Chardonnays that we have made.

SENSORY IMPRESSIONS

Silhouette is a captivating wine. The outstanding quality of the fruit allows for long native fermentations where we carefully monitor its progress. We are striving for the best expression of Chardonnay; an exercise of balance with one goal in mind: finesse, refinement and complexity. Our intent is to surprise you with this unique, exquisite and noble wine that has the potential to age for 10 years or more.

The 2017 Silhouette Chardonnay has an intense nose filled with exotic fruit notes including pineapple, stone fruit and tangerine, and a fragrant vanilla finish. The mouth is very round with a nice sweetness and very clean minerality. The wine is dense and ample with a touch of sweetness and citrus (yuzu) finish. A very balanced and elegant wine with a stylish touch of oak and a beautiful finish.