



HILL FAMILY  
E S T A T E



## 2020 “Stewart Ranch” Albariño

**Production:** 371 cases  
**Composition:** 97% Albariño and 3% Sauvignon Blanc  
**Vineyards:** 99% Stewart Ranch and 1% Watson  
**Appellation:** 100% Napa Valley  
**Elevation:** Valley floor  
**Cooperage:** Stainless Steel  
**Alcohol:** 12% TA: 7.7 g/L pH: 3.21  
**Bottling date:** January 28, 2021  
**Release date:** Spring 2021  
**Release price:** \$30.00

The Stewart Ranch in Carneros has its toes in the estuary south of Napa and stays cool and breezy. Albariño has lovely durable flowery characters, and with careful farming, it progressed well. Normal spring and summer patterns came to a halt on August 16 with the violent thunderstorms and winds that started the LCNU fires. At this point all the smoke was blowing west, so we were able to bring in the fruit after a few days of hot drying weather on August 21. We whole cluster pressed and then fermented in stainless steel with VL3 yeast. Fermentation took about 3 weeks, then the wine rested on the lees for 2 months in tank before racking and bottling. Albariño itself is an uncommon variety in California, but it is well known in Portugal where it is grown in the Northwest, more specifically Galicia, Spain. Its zippy acidity and light floral notes make it a natural companion to tapas and fresh seafood.

### **Winemaker Alison Doran’s tasting notes:**

The 2020 Albariño offers aromas of orange blossom, delicate apricot, mandarin orange and a glimmer of pineapple. The palate has a satiny structure with plenty of acidity on the finish.