



HILL FAMILY
E S T A T E



2018 “Stewart Ranch” Albarino

Production: 285 cases
Composition: 100% Albarino
Vineyard: Stewart Ranch
Appellation: Carneros, Napa Valley
Elevation: Valley floor
Cooperage: Stainless Steel
Alcohol: 13.2%, TA 0.85, pH: 3.10
Bottling date: January 21, 2019
Release date: Spring 2019
Release price: \$30.00

The Stewart Ranch in Carneros has its toes in the estuary south of Napa, and stays cool and breezy. We had moderate rain during winter, and a long moderate season with less rollercoaster effect than most years. Flowery character developed early but pHs were very low, so we waited a bit and harvested on September 13. We whole cluster pressed and then fermented it in stainless steel with VL3 yeast. Fermentation took three weeks, then the wine rested on the lees for two months in tank before racking and bottling. Albarino itself is an uncommon variety in California, but it is well known in Spain where it is grown in Galicia. Its zippy acidity and light floral notes make it a natural companion to tapas and fresh seafood.

Winemaker Alison Doran’s tasting notes:

The wine offers lovely flowery aromas showing honeysuckle with lime leaf and mango. The palate has bright refreshing acidity, but rounds out in the center, allowing the crisp flavors of light mango and cucumber to persist – perfect for seafood!