



Editors' CHOICE

Starlite Vineyards



AN ULTRA-PREMIUM BOUTIQUE WINERY AND ESTATE LOCATED in Sonoma County's famed Alexander Valley, Starlite Vineyards (www.starlitevineyards.com) commenced their journey to make their own wines with the Zinfandel that was already planted in the vineyards. They defined their style of Zinfandel with an inaugural vintage in 2003 and have maintained a consistent quality and character with subsequent vintages. In 2007, they expanded the winery's offering to include Viognier and Cabernet Sauvignon.

Their Zinfandel is 'Claret' in style and marks all the characteristics of the greatest mount-watering varietals with soft tannins, rich fruit, and ruby color. The wine is elegant with expressive aromas and layers of luscious berries and black cherries. On the palate, the fruit is integrated with soft tannins to create a smooth and silky texture. The wine has a long and magical finish with hints of gentle spice.

Starlite's Viognier is 'Condrieu' in style and exudes scents of orange blossom and honeysuckle along with layers of apricot, peaches, and nectarine. The wine is deliciously ripe and fruity, yet surprisingly dry and full-bodied with a luscious mouthfeel. The finish is moderately long, refreshing, and crisp with a burst of acidity.

The Cabernet Sauvignon is 'Bordeaux' in style and is marked with cassis and plums with silky textures and refined tannins. It is seductive on the palate with gorgeous aromas of vanilla and chocolate. The perfect acidity makes the wine a pairing choice with a variety of dishes and is among the most spectacular examples of the varietal. ●



Starlite Vineyards wines (upper left); Arman Pablavan, Starlite's Proprietor (upper right) Starlite vineyards and grapes (bottom)