



## 2004 Estate Viognier – *Santa Rita Hills*

\$20/bottle

Release Date 03.21.05

### **production**

This is 100% Melville Estate fruit from our two vineyard ranches: 20% from Santa Rita Hills and 80% Verna's Vineyards with a combination of two clones, 2/3 Alban clone and 1/3 clone 1. Yields were ridiculously low at 1.25 lbs. per plant. The fruit was gently pressed, then gravity transferred to neutral cooperage for fermentation at 45 degrees in our cold room, aged sur-lie for six months and was prevented from going through malo-lactic fermentation. The extended cold fermentation and the lack of malo-lactic were employed in order to retain the wine's liveliness and purity of expression. Bottled March 1, 2005. Alcohol 16.7%.

### **tasting notes**

*Opulent aromatics of stone fruits, orange peel, ruby grapefruit and white flowers yield to a mouthful of exceptional weight balanced by a verve of minerality and leanness.*