



# PRIDE

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## MOUNTAIN VINEYARDS

### 2021 VIOGNIER

72% SONOMA | 28% NAPA

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blend

100% VIOGNIER

aging

5 MONTHS

100% NEUTRAL FRENCH OAK

NO MLF

abv

14.2%

srp

\$48

global trade allocation

150 CASES

status

ALLOCATED

INSTAGRAM  
@pride\_wines  
#oneranchtwocounties

EMAIL  
wholesale@pridewines.com

WEBSITE  
www.pridewines.com

While Pride's mountaintop estate is revered for our red wines, our sumptuous and elegant whites garner their fair share of praise from those in the know. We understand why members of the trade may not be aware of our textured and vibrant whites - globally, a mere 150 cases of Viognier and 400 cases of Chardonnay make it into the trade each year. There is hardly enough wine to go around. Their exclusivity adds to their mystique. This is particularly true of our estate Viognier.

In 1992, some 10 years after Viognier was first planted in Napa by La Jota, Jim Pride was inspired to plant Viognier after a visit to Condrieu. Jim was in France for Steve Pride's wedding to his Parisienne college sweetheat, Laurence. After the ceremony, the family took a trip to the Rhône Valley. Upon returning to Napa, Jim planted Pride Mountain's first 1.24 acres of Viognier in our "Lower Mountain" vineyard block in 1993. Our cuttings came from Joseph Phelps, whose cuttings came from the original La Jota suitcase clones. It's OG Condrieu material.

Our Rhône varieties have been an obsession for Steve Pride over the last decade despite their small volume in our overall portfolio. Over the last 6 or 7 vintages, alongside vineyard manager David Orozco, Steve has experimented with various ways of training the Viognier clusters across the trellis to get more uniformly-perfect dappled sun exposure on the fruit and also mitigate the increasing warmth from climate change and drought. The goal has been to enhance the bright and juicy acidity of the harvested grapes. The mix of shade and sun has achieved the desired results, with vibrant acidity and a panoply of flavors that have inspired critic Jeb Dunnuck to remark, "It will easily pass undetected in a lineup of top Condrieu."

Pride Mountain Vineyards was founded in 1990 by Jim and Carolyn Pride. Today, the winery is owned by the second generation of the Pride family.

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### THE WINE

Always an exotic wine, the 2021 Viognier shows more textbook opulence than recent vintages, no doubt influenced by the concentration from drought-stressed vines. Heady tropical fruit, lemon curd, and oily aromatics dance with spicy notes of star anise and Szechuan pepper, fines herbes, and intense orange blossom. Savory lees impart a brioche-patisserie quality to the wine. The palate is mouthcoating with an unctuous texture cut by zesty acidity. Viognier's classic phenolics add structure, and, coupled with the acidity, frame the decadence of the fruit to create an impeccable balance between lusciousness and restraint.

