

# 2014 CLOS DU VAL THREE GRACES



**WINEMAKER:**

Ted Henry

**REGION:**

Stags Leap District, Napa Valley

**VARIETALS:**

Cabernet Sauvignon (99%), Cabernet Franc (1%)

**MATURATION:**

26 months in French oak barriques (60% new)

**ANALYSIS:**

14.5% alc/vol | TA: 5.53 g/L | pH: 3.78

**VINTAGE NOTES:** The year started out with the drought at the top of everyone's minds, but a very welcomed rain storm during bud break set the vines up for great success in the growing season. The summer had warm, even days which helped along perfectly developing berries. Harvest began in late August, only to have an earthquake rock the world half way through picking the whites. The winery was spared any damage, but the Carneros vineyard now has a rather large crack right through the middle. Harvest continued at an even pace that resulted in amazing color, flavor and textures. The fruit was hand-picked September 22 - 24.

**STORY BEHIND THE NAME:** The winery's founder, John Goelet, owned a bronze sculpture of the Three Graces from 1624. Daughters of Zeus and part of the nine muses, the Three Graces represent elegance, vibrancy, and cheer - the very things Clos Du Val believes wine imparts on life.

**TASTING NOTES:** Representing the finest blocks of the vintage from Hironnelle Estate vineyard. The wine exudes a strong briary aroma with mint chocolate and cedar notes. With a complex flavor profile including blueberry, blackberry and cream notes, the tannins are persistent on the palate without overpowering it.

**CRITICAL ACCLIAM:** 95+ pts Vinous, 94 pts/Cellar Selection Wine Enthusiast, 94 pts JamesSuckling.com

**ABOUT CLOS DU VAL:** Clos Du Val, French for "small vineyard estate of a small valley," was founded in 1972 in the renowned Stags Leap District. The winery was first recognized for its Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon at the famed Judgment of Paris in 1976, establishing its place as one of Napa Valley's most iconic winery estates. Still family-owned today, Clos Du Val farms 350 acres of estate vineyards in Napa Valley's Stags Leap District, Carneros and Yountville sub-appellations. The winery also continues to craft wines of balance and complexity, showcasing the fruit from the outstanding terroir on which the estate lies.

