

2015 CLOS DU VAL

HIRONDELLE VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON



WINEMAKER: Ted Henry
REGION: Stags Leap District, Napa Valley
VARIETALS: Cabernet Sauvignon
MATURATION: 20 months in French oak barriques (60% new)
ANALYSIS: 14.5% alc/vol | TA: 6.1 g/L | pH: 3.7

VINTAGE NOTES: The 2015 season proved to be warm (or even just plain hot), meaning that harvest started and ended early. A major hurdle in Napa Valley was the series of rains in the early part of the season that washed off the pollen on the flowering grapes. This is called shatter and essentially means many of the grapes on each cluster never turned to fruit. The low yield ended up concentrating the flavors on the grapes that were brought in to the winery and resulted in some of the most concentrated wines the winery has seen in a long time. The fruit for this wine was hand-picked August 26 - September 22.

STORY BEHIND THE NAME: French for 'swallow', the name Hironnelle is a sentimental reminder of the swallows that descend upon Clos Du Val each spring, take shelter in the eaves, and declare the winery their home for the season.

TASTING NOTES: This 100% Cabernet Sauvignon was grown from four of the best blocks of the Hironnelle Estate Vineyard. The wine has deep violet aromas with a hint of forest floor. Displaying flavors of raspberry jam, toast, espresso and fresh pastry, there is a long, velvety finish.

CRITICAL ACCLIAM: 95 pts Robert Parker Wine Advocate, 95 pts Vinous, 93 pts Wine Spectator, 92 pts/Year's Best US Cabernet List Wine & Spirits

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.

