

2014 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: 6.0 g/L | pH: 3.61

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 - 25.

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: The fruit for this small production, single vineyard wine comes from 20-year-old vines in Clos Du Val's iconic Hironnelle Estate vineyard. Enticing aromas of clove, blueberry pie and just a hint of menthol lead way to complex red fruit flavors with bright acidity. The wine showcases toasted oak and fine tannins with a long, lingering finish.

CRITICAL ACCLIAM: 94 pts Vinous

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.

