

CLOS DU VAL

2010 CABERNET SAUVIGNON
NAPA VALLEY

APPELLATION:	Napa Valley
COMPOSITION:	86% Cabernet Sauvignon 5% Merlot 7% Cabernet Franc 2% Petit Verdot
FERMENTATION:	Traditional stainless steel tanks with 2 pumpovers daily
AGING:	18 months in French oak barrels, 25% new barrels
ACID:	6.1 g/L pH: 3.64
ALCOHOL:	13.5%
SOIL TYPE:	gravelly clay loams
AGE OF VINES:	11-28 years
HARVESTED:	September 20- October 16, 2010
BOTTLING:	July 2012
PRODUCTION:	44,000 cases produced

WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS

A fresh take on Clos du Val's world-class style, the 2010 Cabernet Sauvignon continues the winery's tradition of producing truly distinctive wines of balance and elegance while adding a hint of modernity. Its opulent, brooding purple hue is accentuated with aromas of ripe black and red fruit, black pepper and subtle hints of toast. The palate displays a seamless integration of rich flavors which include chocolate, toffee and ripe blackberry. The wine has a rich, full mouthfeel marked by focused, silky tannins and a long, lingering finish. Expect this Cabernet Sauvignon to age gracefully for an additional 5-10 years.

HARVEST

A mild winter followed by a long, cool spring season contributed to a late bud break in 2010. The cool weather continued throughout the summer until the middle of August when we had two of the hottest days in history. Even in our Carneros Estate Vineyards, home to Clos du Val's coolest vineyard blocks, temperatures soared well above 100 degrees, causing sun-burn on western exposed fruit. These burnt berries were removed by hand at the winery during harvest, which began 10 days later, immediately following another cool spell. Harvest was completed on October 13th, just before the heavy rains came a week later damaging much of our neighboring winery's fruit. Clos du Val wines are showing the intensity of flavor that we get from longer, cooler growing seasons, which should result in another stellar vintage.

HISTORY

Clos du Val, French for "small vineyard estate of a small valley," was founded in 1972 in the now legendary Stags Leap District by Franco-American entrepreneur John Goelet. After a worldwide search to purchase vineyard properties from which to craft world-class wines, 150 acres in Stags Leap and 180 acres in Carneros were chosen, solidifying Clos du Val's iconic stature and formidable place in Napa Valley history.

