

CLOS DU VAL

2010 CHARDONNAY RESERVE
CARNEROS, NAPA VALLEY

APELLATION:	Carneros, Napa Valley
COMPOSITION:	100% Chardonnay
FERMENTATION:	100% barrel fermented
AGING:	14 months in French oak barrels
ACID:	6.0 g/L pH: 3.52
ALCOHOL:	13.5%
SOIL TYPE:	Clay loam on fractured bedrock
AGE OF VINES:	26 years old
HARVESTED:	September 10-30, 2010
BOTTLING:	December 2011
PRODUCTION:	400 6-pack cases produced
RELEASE DATE:	August 2012

WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS

Pale gold with a green tinge, the Reserve Chardonnay is a fresh, vibrant wine made from fruit grown in Clos du Val's Carneros vineyard. This Chardonnay shows aromas and flavors of green apple and pear balanced by a hint of citrus zest and vanilla. In the mouth, the wine is full-bodied showing concentrated fruit and toast with good acidity culminating in a long, clean finish that is characteristic of Clos du Val style.

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 American entrepreneur John Goelet and French winemaker Bernard Portet. 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.

