

# CLOS DU VAL

## 2012 PINOT NOIR

LONE CYPRESS RANCH  
CARNEROS, NAPA VALLEY

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VINEYARD:	Lone Cypress Ranch
APPELLATION:	Carneros, Napa Valley
COMPOSITION:	100% Clone 667 Pinot Noir
FERMENTATION:	open top fermenters with 3 punch downs daily
AGING:	14 months in French oak barrels, 33% new barrels
ACID:	5.7 g/L      pH: 3.61
ALCOHOL:	14.5%
SOIL TYPE:	clay loams on fractured bedrock
AGE OF VINES:	13 years
HARVESTED:	September 17, 2012
BOTTLING:	December 2013
PRODUCTION:	390 cases produced
RELEASE DATE:	Spring 2014

### WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS

Our 'Lone Cypress Ranch' Carneros Estate vineyard is composed of 11 different blocks of Pinot Noir, in 9 different clones. These blocks are typically blended together to create our classic Pinot Noir. Sometimes, one block stands out as so special and unique; it beckons to be showcased alone. This year's standout is composed of clone 667 from Block 99C, which sits at the highest elevation of the vineyard on the far eastern side of the estate. This highly-limited Pinot Noir is deep ruby in color and opens with aromas of black cherry, baking spices and warm vanilla. The palate is met with flavors of dark raspberry, cola, and rich fruits, all complemented by the delicate structure of fine grained, elegant tannins. This particular block was selected as a unique offering to showcase the beauty of our estate vineyard and the wonderful diversity of the Carneros appellation.

### HARVEST

The 2012 harvest season came as a great blessing to us in Napa Valley. A calm and beautiful spring resulted in a large crop of fruit that ripened slowly and evenly through a near perfect season. Temperatures in the summer were consistent and warm, resulting in great fruit flavors in all varietals. As we approached fall, it was apparent this would be one of the largest crops we have seen in recent memory with incredible quality. We began harvest on August 31 with Sauvignon Blanc. Fruit from our Carneros vineyard followed, culminating with picks of the Cabernet Sauvignon wrapping up at the end of October.

### 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.

