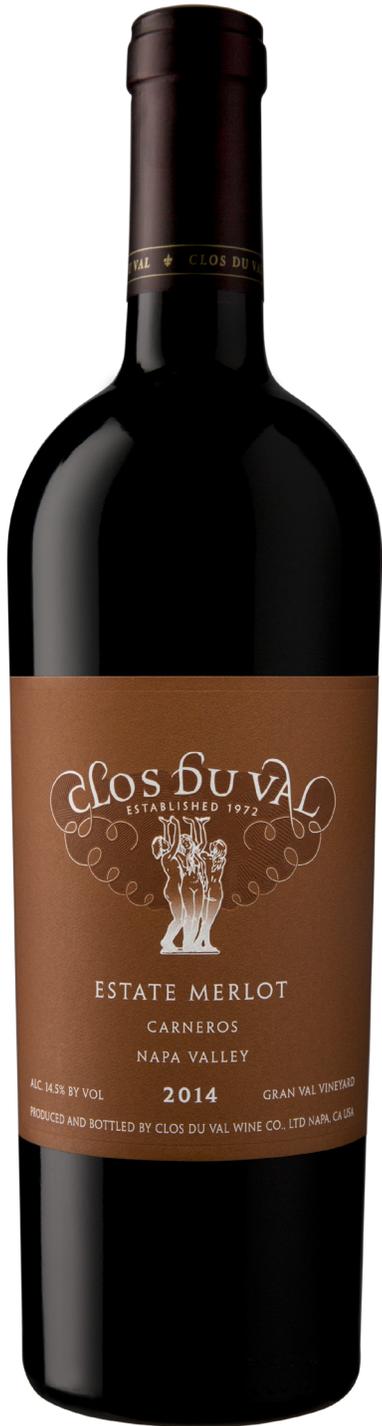


2014 ESTATE MERLOT
 GRAN VAL VINEYARD
 CARNEROS, NAPA VALLEY



APPELLATION:	Carneros, Napa Valley
VINEYARD:	Gran Val
COMPOSITION:	96% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Sauvignon
FERMENTATION:	Open top tanks with three punchdowns daily
AGING:	20 months in 46% new French oak
ACID:	6.4 g/L
pH:	3.5
ALCOHOL:	14.5%
HARVESTED:	September 15, 2014
BOTTLING:	July 2016
PRODUCTION:	940 cases produced

WINEMAKER'S INSIGHT
 This Merlot opens with bold aromas of juicy ripe cherry and blackberry. Luxurious blueberry flavors dominate the palate along with smooth, robust tannins. Displaying a refreshing, cool climate acidity, this wine finishes with a touch of cedar.

HARVEST
 In spite of all the interesting challenges nature handed us in 2014, it will go down in the record books as another year where amazing quality and quantity seemed like an easy task. The year started out with the drought at the top of our minds, but a very welcomed rain storm during bud break set the vines up for great success in the growing season with perfectly timed moisture. The summer had warm, even days which helped along perfectly developing berries. Harvest began in late August, only to have an earthquake rock our worlds half way through picking Sauvignon blanc. The winery was spared any damage, but our Carneros vineyard now has a rather large crack right through the middle. We carried on, like all farmers do, through an even paced harvest that has resulted in amazing color, flavor and textures in the wines that bring us great joy.

HISTORY
 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 the Stags Leap District, Carneros and Yountville appellations and continues to craft wines of balance and complexity, showcasing the fruit from the outstanding terroir on which our estate lies.