

2014 THREE GRACES  
 HIRONDELLE VINEYARD  
 STAGS LEAP DISTRICT, NAPA VALLEY



<b>APPELLATION:</b>	Stags Leap District, Napa Valley
<b>VINEYARD:</b>	Hirondelle Estate; Blocks B5B & A5
<b>COMPOSITION:</b>	99% Cabernet Sauvignon, 1% Cabernet Franc
<b>FERMENTATION:</b>	Traditional stainless steel tanks with 3 pumpovers daily
<b>AGING:</b>	26 months in 60% new French oak (Saury, Seguin Moreau, Vicard)
<b>ACID:</b>	5.53 g/L
<b>pH:</b>	3.78
<b>ALCOHOL:</b>	14.5%
<b>SOIL TYPE:</b>	Gravelly loam
<b>HARVESTED:</b>	September 22 - 24, 2014
<b>WINEMAKER'S INSIGHT</b>	Both the Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc were grown in the finest blocks of the vintage in Hirondelle Estate vineyard, blocks B5B and A5 respectively. The wine exudes a strong briary aroma with mint chocolate and cedar notes. With a complex flavor profile including blueberry, blackberry and cream notes, the tannins are persistent on the palate without being overpowering.
<b>HARVEST</b>	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.
<b>HISTORY</b>	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.