



CLOS DU VAL'S ESTATE VINEYARDS

The source of our past, present and future success

For more than 40 years, Clos Du Val's Napa Valley estate vineyards have been at the heart of the winery's winemaking program. Located on some of the finest winegrowing locales in Napa Valley, and farmed by Clos Du Val for decades, the Clos Du Val vineyards reflect the valley's diversity, and provide a world-class palette of estate fruit for Winemaker Ted Henry. Beginning in 2014, the winery affirmed its commitment to the importance of this estate fruit by drastically reducing production and focusing almost entirely on their estate-grown wines. As further example of their commitment to quality and longevity, the winery has we have ceased using any herbicides or pesticides in the vineyards, and they are entering organic certification on all vineyards.

HIRONDELLE VINEYARD

STAGS LEAP DISTRICT, NAPA VALLEY

The crown jewel of Clos Du Val's estate program is a 150-acre vineyard in the heart of Stags Leap District, in the eastern portion of Napa Valley. Originally acquired in 1972, this coveted land is also home to the Clos Du Val Winery. Often referred to as a "valley within a valley," Stags Leap District was the first American Viticultural Area (AVA) in the United States to be approved based on the distinctiveness of its gravel and loam soils. The AVA, which is just three miles long, and one mile wide, is also celebrated for its ideal climate, which funnels cool breezes from San Pablo Bay through the Stags Leap District corridor. This lowers evening temperatures and allows the grapes to ripen slowly, producing velvety tannins and pure varietal flavors, while retaining ideal natural acidity—qualities that have proven perfect for making exceptional, age-worthy Cabernet Sauvignons.

Clos Du Val's Hironnelle Vineyard features approximately 126 acres of vines, divided into 34 unique blocks, each with its own combination of clone, rootstock, vine age and soil type. Just over 100 acres of these plantings are made up of nine different clones of Cabernet Sauvignon, with the remainder of the vineyard planted to Cabernet Franc, Merlot and Petit Verdot. The vineyard offers a uniform east-west exposure for even ripening throughout, with well-drained Haire loam and alluvial rock soils that limit yields, increase concentration, and add a signature streak of minerality to Clos Du Val's Cabernets.

STATE LANE VINEYARD

YOUNTVILLE, NAPA VALLEY

Though spanning a mere 8,000 total acres, with less than 3,000 planted to vines, Yountville has some of the richest winegrowing history in Napa Valley. In 1836, George Yount planted the first vineyards in Napa Valley, in the area that today is known as NapaNook. One of the defining elements of the Yountville AVA is its unusual combination of soils. While volcanic soils on the appellation's eastern flank are similar to those in the neighboring Stags Leap District, ancient coastal deposits with sedimentary and alluvial soils to the west are interspersed with sandy, gravelly loam and clay.

Clos Du Val's State Lane Estate Vineyard showcases the diversity of Yountville's soils. As a result, even though it only has 17.5 acres of vines, there are eight separate blocks, with a total of 10.5 acres of Cabernet Sauvignon, five acres of Cabernet Franc and two acres of Sauvignon Blanc. In 2002, the entire vineyard was replanted to Clos Du Val's specifications. Because cool air and fog traveling north from San Pablo Bay get trapped by the Yountville Mounts, Clos Du Val's vineyard benefits from the region's "natural air conditioning," making it ideal for producing beautifully structured Cabernets, as well as exceptional Cabernet Franc and Sauvignon Blanc.

RIVERBEND VINEYARD YOUNTVILLE, NAPA VALLEY

A long a narrow stretch of the Napa River sits the Riverbend Vineyard, a 100 acre site bordered by a rich riparian area. The viticultural team at Clos Du Val had the unique opportunity to plant this site in phases starting in 2015 and completing in 2016.

Today, the vineyard is beginning to produce fruit for the first time for Clos Du Val's estate wines. Because of the variety of soil types (Cole silt loam, Pleasanton loam, and Clear Lake clay) the vineyard could be planted to numerous varieties and rootstocks, adding greater diversity to the estate's wine program. Seventy percent is planted to Cabernet Sauvignon in roughly five acre blocks. To add to the variety of fruit qualities available to the winemaking team, they selected 10 different Cabernet Sauvignon clones and a wide variety of rootstocks, each matched to the soil types. In addition to Cabernet Sauvignon, the vineyard is planted to complementary Bordeaux varieties such as Merlot, Petit Verdot, Cabernet Franc and Malbec. A small amount of Sauvignon Blanc and Viognier rounds out the plantings.

The site, bordered by trees and the Napa River, is blessed with a fertile and healthy ecosystem, which is beneficial to growing exceptional wine grapes. To protect this balance, the decision has been made to farm this young vineyard is farmed organically and the team is working toward organic certification. As a result of that healthy soil and rich terroir, Clos Du Val hopes to also dry farm the site once the young vines are established, furthering the winery's commitment to sustainable practices.