



## Clos Du Val

While the story of Clos Du Val is rich in history, and follows the rise of Napa Valley as one of the world's preeminent winegrowing regions, it is also a living story that is still being written. Guided by an acclaimed team that includes President Steve Tamburelli, Director of Operations Jon-Mark Chappellet and Winemaker Ted Henry, Clos Du Val has experienced a renaissance in every facet of the winery. This period of revitalization started with the 2012 vintage, when Clos Du Val began a vibrant and vineyard-driven stylistic shift for its wines. It continued in the 2014 vintage, when Clos Du Val began focusing almost exclusively on making estate-grown wines, with an emphasis on the exceptional Stags Leap District Cabernet Sauvignons that first catapulted Clos Du Val to fame.

Clos Du Val was founded by the Goelet family in 1972, an era that wine writer Hugh Johnson referred to as “the turning point in modern wine history.” 1972 saw the founding of a who’s who of California’s most iconic wineries, and in the history of North American winemaking, the Cabernet producers of 1972 are legendary. It was a dynamic time, filled with energy and innovation that laid the foundation for Napa Valley’s rise to global prominence. Two years before, the family tasked talented French-born winemaker Bernard Portet with finding vineyard land capable of producing a world-class Cabernet Sauvignon. After traveling to five continents, this search brought Bernard to the Stags Leap District in Napa Valley, where perfect daytime weather, cool nights and ideal soils yield Cabernet Sauvignons of uncommon power and elegance.

In 1972, Clos Du Val acquired 150 acres of estate vineyards in the heart of the Stags Leap District, and made its first wines, including Clos Du Val’s legendary debut 1972 Cabernet Sauvignon—one of only six California Cabernets selected for the famous 1976 Judgment of Paris Tasting, where California defeated some of Bordeaux’s finest. Ten years later, Clos Du Val’s reputation for creating some of Napa Valley’s most gracefully age-worthy wines was solidified, when its 1972 Cabernet Sauvignon took first place in the Judgment of Paris rematch.

Today, Clos Du Val’s acclaimed estate program has evolved to include its 180-acre Grand Val Vineyard in the Carneros appellation of Napa Valley, and the 18-acre State Lane Vineyard in Yountville. With a viticulture program guided by master Cabernet Sauvignon grower Jon-Mark Chappellet, these vineyards include more than 30 different blocks of Cabernet, with a variety of soil types and exposures, dozens of unique clone and rootstock combinations, and an array of vine ages. This provides Winemaker Ted Henry, and Consulting Winemaker Tony Biagi, with a remarkable palette of estate fruit from which to make Clos Du Val’s wines. Taking advantage of this rich diversity, Ted ferments as many as 35 individual lots of Cabernet Sauvignon each vintage, with upwards of 70 total lots of Bordeaux red varieties—some as small as 1.5 tons.

Under President and CEO Steve Tamburelli’s direction, Clos Du Val has also instituted numerous changes, all with the goal of achieving the utmost quality. This includes restoring and modernizing the winery, harvesting later to achieve optimal ripeness, reducing crop yields, increasing dappled sunlight in the vine canopy, enhancing soil fertility, adding cold soaks to the Cabernet program to increase color and aromatics, instituting earlier pumpovers to create greater tannin integration, utilizing new



filtration methods to limit oxidation, and revamping the barrel program to focus on only the best coopers—all to preserve vineyard character, while adding nuance and silky textural elements.

“As a winery, our original roots were more in an Old World style,” says Ted. “We used to pick much earlier, at lower Brix. Now we are more fully embracing the ‘Napa Valley-ness’ of our wines. We are showing the natural strengths of our vineyards, and we are doing it in a way that still honors our heritage. While our wines are richer and more textural than in the past, they still have lovely acid and relatively modest alcohol levels. They are wines of purity and balance.”

Unlike many of the other pioneering Napa Valley wineries, Clos Du Val has remained small and dedicated to making Napa Valley-designated wines—a focus that has become even clearer in recent vintages. In fact, as part of its transition to making almost exclusively estate-grown wines, Clos Du Val made the bold decision to significantly reduce production, with overall Cabernet Sauvignon production cut almost in half.

“While Clos Du Val has an important place in the history of Napa Valley, we are looking forward, not back,” says Steve Tamburelli, who, prior to Clos Du Val, spent 11 years as the general manager of Napa Valley’s acclaimed Chappellet. “We are already making some of the finest wines in our history. By staying small, having an absolute focus on quality, and having complete control over every vine, every wine, and every stage of viticulture and winemaking, our wines will continue to become even more exceptional. Everyone is committed to this vision. We see this time as the beginning of a great new chapter in our story that will lay the foundation for the next four decades.”

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## **Clos Du Val's Estate Vineyards: Stags Leap, Carneros and Yountville**

For more than 40 years, Clos Du Val's estate vineyards in Stags Leap District, Carneros and Yountville have been at the heart of the winery's winemaking program. Located on some of the finest winegrowing land in Napa Valley, and farmed by Clos Du Val for decades, these three distinctive vineyards reflect the valley's diversity, and provide a world-class palette of estate fruit for Winemaker Ted Henry. Beginning in 2014, Clos Du Val President Steve Tamburelli affirmed the winery's commitment to the importance of this estate fruit when he transitioned Clos Du Val's wines into being almost entirely estate-grown.

### **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 Hirondelle 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. 103 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. Largely replanted in the mid-1990s, all trellising uses vertical shoot positioning, and the average vine age is approximately 15 years.

### **Gran Val Vineyard - Carneros, Napa Valley**

Following the decision to select Stags Leap District as the ideal estate home for its Cabernet Sauvignons, in 1973, Clos Du Val purchased the 180-acre Grand Val Vineyard in Carneros to grow Burgundian varietals. Just as Stags Leap District became the first AVA recognized for its distinctive soils, Carneros became the first California wine region granted AVA status specifically for its unique climate in 1983. Situated at the southernmost parts of the Sonoma and Napa valleys, the climate of Carneros is shaped by cooling maritime breezes and fog off San Pablo Bay, resulting in conditions that have established the region's reputation for lush and complex Pinot Noirs and Chardonnays.



Carneros is the only California AVA to span two counties, and Clos Du Val's Grand Val Vineyard is located on the Napa Valley side of the appellation, neighboring such famed winegrowing sites as Brown Ranch and Hyde Vineyard. Of the site's 180 acres, 135 are under vine, with 56 acres and 10 clones of Chardonnay, 41 acres and 10 clones of Pinot Noir, and smaller amounts of Merlot and Cabernet Franc. The vineyard ranges in elevation from approximately 50 feet to over 300 feet, and has slopes as steep as 25%. The more hillside sections feature rocky clay loam over shale, while the lower sections predominantly feature Haire loam soils. Overall, the vineyard is divided into 33 unique blocks based on clone, rootstock and soil type. Through replanting, much of the vineyard has been designed to feature north-south row orientations for ideal sun exposure and airflow. Trellising primarily features vertical shoot positioning. While most of the vines have been replanted since 1997, the vineyard also includes three highly prized hilltop blocks of clone 4 Chardonnay planted in 1984.

#### **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, 5 acres of Cabernet Franc and 2 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. The vineyard uses vertical shoot positioning, and is planted exclusively with an east-west orientation, with the exception of the Sauvignon Blanc.



## **Ted Henry** **Winemaker**

*“With a team that is committed to making the finest wines in Clos Du Val’s history, this is a time of incredible energy and excitement for our winery. As a winemaker, building on the accomplishments of such a legendary estate, and helping to chart the course for its future, is a privilege.” - Ted Henry*

As only the fourth winemaker in the four-decade history of Clos Du Val, Ted Henry is playing a key role in writing the next chapter in the story of the iconic winery. A gifted winemaker, with more than 15 years of experience making estate-grown Bordeaux varietal wines, Ted is guiding a vibrant and vineyard-driven stylistic shift at Clos Du Val towards greater ripeness, more mid-palate depth and greater tannin integration. As part of this shift, Ted is also working closely with President Steve Tamburelli and Director of Operations Jon-Mark Chappellet to transition to an almost exclusive focus on estate-grown wines, with an emphasis on exceptional Stags Leap District Cabernet Sauvignons. This focus on the winery’s 350 acres of renowned estate vineyards, combined with Ted’s winemaking talents, is resulting in some of the finest wines in Clos Du Val’s history.

A fourth generation San Francisco Bay Area native, Ted grew up on his family’s ranch, where he was immersed in agriculture from a young age. Building on his interests in science and agriculture, Ted attended UC Davis, where he soon dedicated himself to studying enology and viticulture. While earning his degree in fermentation science, Ted worked in the lab of famed sensory chemist Dr. Ann Noble, as well as in the lab of noted plant biochemist Dr. Douglas Adams. After graduation, he joined Trinchero Family Estates as part of a team dedicated to establishing a luxury wine program, focused on Trinchero’s Napa Valley estate vineyards. Quickly distinguishing himself, Ted was rapidly promoted from enologist to assistant winemaker and ultimately to associate winemaker, before moving on to Artesa Winery and Vineyards, where he oversaw winemaking for the acclaimed Ridgeline Vineyard.

In 2008, eager to dedicate himself to exclusively making small-production, estate-grown wines, Ted joined Napa Valley’s Jarvis Estate as winemaker. There, he earned a reputation as a talented winemaker with a gifted palate, and an ability to craft beautifully balanced, vineyard-driven wines. While at Jarvis Estate, Ted also had the opportunity to learn from famed consulting winemaker Dimitri Tchelistcheff.

Since being named winemaker for Clos Du Val, Ted has joined Steve, Jon-Mark and consulting winemaker Tony Biagi in guiding a renaissance for the winery. To preserve the character of Clos Du Val’s exceptional estate vineyards, Ted ferments more than 30 individual lots of Cabernet Sauvignon each vintage, with some as small as 1.5 tons. This thoughtful level of focus and commitment to quality can be seen in every aspect of Clos Du Val’s viticulture and winemaking, including pruning techniques designed to increase dappled sunlight, adding cold soaks to increase color and aromatics, instituting earlier pumpovers to create greater tannin integration, and utilizing new filtration methods to limit oxidation. These techniques, combined with a revamping of the barrel program to focus on only the best coopers, are resulting in elegant and exciting wines that capture the essence of Clos Du Val’s acclaimed estate vineyards.



**Steve Tamburelli**  
**President & CEO**

As one of the most respected names in the Napa Valley wine industry, Steve Tamburelli has earned a reputation for helping to write exciting new chapters in the stories of some of the valley's most iconic wineries. Since being named the president and CEO of Clos Du Val in 2014, Steve has guided a renaissance at the winery. Among the numerous changes instituted by Steve, none are more pivotal than the decision to begin making almost all of Clos Du Val's wines exclusively using estate-grown grapes beginning with the 2014 vintage. To achieve this, Steve made the bold, quality-driven decision to eliminate numerous wines, and to cut overall Cabernet Sauvignon production almost in half. "Our greatest strengths have always been our focus on Cabernet Sauvignon, and our 350 acres of estate vineyards," says Steve. "We believe that a rededication to these strengths, combined with a thoughtful evolution in our wine style, will chart the right course for our next four decades."

A Napa Valley native, Steve Tamburelli has spent his entire life working in and around the wine industry, developing a passion for wine and a comprehensive knowledge of sales and marketing. As a high school student, Steve began working for his family's wine distribution business, a practice he continued throughout university. After earning a master's in business administration from the University of Santa Clara, Steve joined the family business fulltime. Quickly making himself indispensable, within three years Steve assumed the position of general manager. In 1991, he purchased the business from his family, and over the next eight years, he increased sales by 50 percent.

After many prosperous years as a distributor, Steve found himself drawn to the winery side of the industry. In 1998, he sold his business and took a position as the COO for Stag's Leap Wine Cellars. There, he augmented his knowledge, learning the intricacies of winery and vineyard operations, while helping to usher in a period of revitalization. In 2002, Steve joined Chappellet as director of finance, sales and marketing. During his 11 years at Chappellet, the last six as general manager, Steve helped to elevate the reputation of the venerable winery into its current status as one of Napa Valley's greatest family-owned wineries.

"Because I grew up in the Napa Valley, I know what a privilege it is to work for wineries like Clos Du Val, Chappellet and Stag's Leap Wine Cellars," says Steve. "They are legends. Not only did they reshape the world wine map, they influenced generations of vintners, winemakers and wine lovers. I can't think of any better way to honor this legacy than to work to ensure that Clos Du Val's future is as dynamic and meaningful as its roots."



## **Jon-Mark Chappellet** **Director of Operations**

Throughout a career spanning a quarter century, Jon-Mark Chappellet has established himself as a viticultural and winemaking innovator, and a master at growing Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon. As director of operations, Jon-Mark oversees Clos Du Val's storied estate program, which includes 350 acres in Stags Leap District, Yountville and Carneros. He also guides Clos Du Val's estate winemaking program, working alongside Winemaker Ted Henry to create wines that eloquently express their vineyard roots. Together with Ted, and Clos Du Val President Steve Tamburelli, Jon-Mark is helping to write an exciting new chapter in the Clos Du Val story, which includes a renewed commitment to the finest viticultural practices, an almost exclusive focus on estate wines, and a shift to a more vivid and alluring style.

The son of renowned vintners Donn and Molly Chappellet, Jon-Mark was raised on Napa Valley's famed Pritchard Hill, where he learned about winegrowing from the ground up. After earning a degree in conservation and resource studies from the University of California, Berkeley, and spending several years as a high school social sciences teacher, Jon-Mark returned to Pritchard Hill in 1991. Over the next two decades, he earned a reputation as one of the valley's most respected winegrowers, helping to elevate Chappellet to global renown, while also establishing its wines as New World benchmarks for mountain-grown Cabernet Sauvignon.

In 2015, Jon-Mark joined Clos Du Val as director of operations. "I grew up as part of one of Napa Valley's great pioneering wineries, and spent almost a quarter century helping it to realize its full potential," says Jon-Mark. "Clos Du Val is cut from the same cloth. It is an iconic winery, with a rich history, and some of the finest vineyard land in California. It's incredibly exciting to be a part of writing a new chapter in the story of such an important winery."

In Clos Du Val's estate vineyards, and in the winery, Jon-Mark focuses on implementing positive, big-picture changes, while keeping a close eye on the small details that define quality. In the vineyards, Jon-Mark tailors the farming techniques to every vineyard block, with a focus on building soil fertility, vine balance and lowering yields. Building on this work, in the winery he champions a style of winemaking that captures the essence of Clos Du Val's remarkable Stag's Leap District terroir. "We are blessed with an ideal location," adds Jon-Mark. "There is no limit to how extraordinary the wines from our estate vineyards can be."

In addition to his role at Clos Du Val, Jon-Mark is extremely active in the local wine community, and is a strong supporter of land preservation efforts. He is a past president and current board member of the Napa Farm Bureau, and an advisory board member to the California Climate & Agricultural Network.