

# 2017 ESTATE CHARDONNAY

## CARNEROS, NAPA VALLEY



<b>APPELLATION:</b>	Carneros, Napa Valley
<b>COMPOSITION:</b>	100% Estate Chardonnay
<b>FERMENTATION:</b>	100% barrel fermented
<b>MALOLACTIC:</b>	50%
<b>AGING:</b>	10 months in 35% new French oak
<b>ACID:</b>	5.2 g/L
<b>pH:</b>	3.75
<b>ALCOHOL:</b>	13.9%
<b>SOIL TYPE:</b>	Haire loam, cole silt sloam
<b>AGE OF VINES:</b>	15 years

### WINEMAKER'S INSIGHT

Made exclusively using grapes from our own acclaimed Carneros estate vineyard, which we have been farming for more than four decades, this Chardonnay is a Clos Du Val favorite. Showing off a beautiful pale straw color, this Estate Chardonnay leads with aromas of bread dough, cotton candy, linen and jasmine flower. This wine is lean, polished and quite elegant. On the finish, you'll find notes of wet stone and alluring mineralities.

### HARVEST

The 2017 harvest was the first of its kind following a 5 year drought. The soils and water table had been replenished and the vines took off early in the season and weather patterns were about normal until late August. In early September heat spikes hit the valley and set record or near record temperatures. This caused some vineyards to progress rapidly and show signs of hydration. With plenty of water available most vineyards were heavily irrigated and the temperatures cooled in mid-September to more normal levels. The quantity of grapes was quite low but quality looks to be excellent. A wildfire at the end of harvest threatened vines that still had fruit but luckily the vast majority of grapes were already safely in the winery for the year.

### 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.