



CLOS PEGASE
NAPA VALLEY

2015
CABERNET SAUVIGNON
NAPA VALLEY

TENMA VINEYARD, ON AN ALLUVIAL FAN in Jericho Canyon in northeastern Calistoga, produces Cabernet Sauvignon wines of deep color and intensity. While the Petit Verdot grown on Tenma vineyard provides inky color and mid-palate drive to this elegant estate blend.

HARVEST NOTES

The mild winter combined with substantial rains in February and March gave the vines a vigorous start. The late falling spring rains along with cool temperatures in May, meant that fruit-set was reduced, naturally lowering the yield of fruit each vine produced. The weather started to warm up as spring moved into summer, providing our vineyards with the optimal climate to undergo veraison, where upon the grapes skins softened, natural grape acid declined, sugar was generated and the grape skins started to color. As harvest approached, the combination of warm days and cool nights ensured full physiological ripeness of the fruit both in terms of fruit flavor development and tannin maturity together with acidity retention so crucial for fine wine balance; however, because the peak daytime temperatures exceeded those in 2014, this vintage was one of the earliest in over a decade.

WINEMAKER NOTES

Fruit from our Tenma vineyard was hand picked and harvested in the cool of the night, affording us the opportunity to achieve a natural prolonged cold soak period prior to the onset of fermentation; this practice allowed us to gently extract color and tannins from the grape skins during fermentation, while eliminating harsher seed tannin extraction into the new wine. Extended maceration on the skins following primary fermentation further refined the ripe tannins and helped to stabilize color. After pressing, malolactic conversion occurred in barrel, and the wine received racking during élevage to aid in natural clarification and to round out its structure. The final blend was assembled in tank in late May of 2017, ahead of its bottling in early June of 2017.

TASTING NOTES

Once in the glass, this 2015 Clos Pegase Napa Valley Estate Cabernet Sauvignon reflects an opaque dark purple core. As the aromatics waft towards the nose, they deliver generous layers of dark fruit, cassis, cigar box and a touch of wet slate. On the palate, brooding dark fruits give way to late season cherries, ripe blackberries and plums. More subtle notes of five spice, nutmeg and dried leaves surround the core flavors, adding a depth and complexity to the wine. With air, the wine opens up, displaying more cassis aromatics and a rich cocoa bean finish. The tannins are powerful yet precise, adding a fine grain texture to the body. Balanced by fresh acidity and ripe fruit, this wine persists on the palate, delivering a complex evolution of flavors.

TECHNICAL INFO

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

85% Cabernet Sauvignon
15% Petit Verdot

VINEYARD

100% Tenma Vineyard, Calistoga

HARVEST DATES

September 25th - October 15th

AGING

17 months in 50% new French oak

BOTTLING DATE

July 2017

ALCOHOL

15.1%

PRODUCTION

500 cases