



CLOS PEGASE
NAPA VALLEY

2015
ROSÉ
NAPA VALLEY

THIS WINE BLENDS the bright, well-balanced structure of the Mitsuko's Vineyard grapes with the riper and richer Dunaweal Vineyard fruit to create a more complex and appealing dry Rosé, ideal for enjoying year-round.

HARVEST NOTES

The 2015 growing season in Napa Valley started out with unseasonably warm temperatures in the late winter and early spring, and the warm dry soils promoted a remarkably early bud break and bloom. Cold and wind during the peak of bloom inhibited pollination, resulting in significantly fewer berries on each cluster and hence a remarkably small crop across all varieties. Because of this low fruit load on the vines and the warm dry weather that dominated the remainder of the growing season, the harvest was the earliest on record for Clos Pegase, beginning on August 20th with Mitsuko's Vineyard Pinot Noir, and concluding with Applebone Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon in the third week of October. Drought-like conditions, while not severe enough to impact fruit development, did serve to reduce vine vigor, keep berry size small (further reducing yields) and set the stage for production of intense and concentrated wines. Once again, quality was exemplary across all varieties on our Estate vineyard properties.

WINEMAKER NOTES

Our 2015 Rosé is comprised of lots made in two distinct styles. For the traditional saignée (bleed) style, we removed a small percentage of freshly liberated juice after crushing red fruit. This technique both concentrates the flavor and structure of our red wines and allows us to make a lovely dry Rosé, keeping the more delicate aromatics and fruit flavors of each variety without the tannins. We also produced "true" Rosé by destemming and crushing lower maturity red grapes followed by careful pressing of the lightly colored grape juice prior to fermentation. Blending of these lots yielded a complex yet elegant wine, with plenty of bright red and ethereal substance, which was bottled after fermenting and aging *sur lies* for four months in neutral French oak barrels.

TASTING NOTES

Our 2015 Rosé is a beautiful French rose-tinged wine bursting with fragrant and perfumed aromas of red cherries, red raspberries and blood orange framed with a hint of wild fennel flowers and vanilla orchid. The wine has a refreshing entry with a juicy, expansive mid-palate and mineral-driven finish. This wine is built for pure refreshment and enjoyment - perfect for a summer lunch *al fresco*, or as a refreshing aperitif. Serve chilled.

TECHNICAL INFO

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

65% Zinfandel
10% Cabernet Franc
8% Pinot Noir
6% Merlot
6% Malbec
5% Syrah

VINEYARD

78% Dunaweal Vineyard, Calistoga
22% Mitsuko's Vineyard, Carneros

HARVEST DATES

August 24 - October 20

FERMENTATION

100% barrel fermented

AGING

4 months in older neutral French oak *sur lie*

BOTTLING DATE

January 2016

ALCOHOL

14.1%

PRODUCTION

900 cases