

WHITEHALL  
LANE



2015  
NAPA VALLEY  
CABERNET SAUVIGNON  
LEONARDINI  
ESTATE

VINTAGE

The 2015 vintage started with very little rainfall prior to bud break, enabling the vintage to be considered a drought year. Drought years often lead to less vegetative growth and more focused fruit development, which is always a great thing for winemakers. The Spring was cooler than expected and in turn affected the fruit set and potential yields. Even though yields in the vineyards were down, this provided the winemaking team with increased concentration of tannins and flavors from the grapes. Summer was relatively warm and allowed the fruit to ripen at a steady pace and by September and October, the grapes were harvested at optimal ripeness. The Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot in this wine were harvested from our Oak Glen, Leonardini, Millennium MM, and Fawn Park Estate vineyards.

WINE

Upon hand harvesting in the early morning hours, our Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot were carefully destemmed and sent to tank for a whole-berry fermentation. The grapes were cold-soaked in tank at 45°F for 4-7 days, allowing for increased color, aroma, and flavor extraction. After inoculation, the grape must (juice, skins, and seeds) fermented at 82°F, which allowed for a hot extraction on the skins. For fermentation cap management, we pumped juice over the skins two times per day, wetting the cap evenly for a nice healthy fermentation. After fermentation and pressing, the wine was sent to 65% new French oak, 35% neutral French oak barrels, aging for 26 months. The final blend for the Leonardini Estate is 94% Cabernet Sauvignon and 6% Petit Verdot and was bottled unfinned and unfiltered.

NOTES

This 2015 Leonardini Estate wine is a quintessential Cabernet Sauvignon. It begins on the nose with rich, dark red fruits, black cherries, wild strawberries, lavender, sweet vanillin, mixed berry tart, and baking spices. Its balance and mid-palate are most notable, providing long, plush tannins alongside its dense fruit character. On the palate, it delivers baked berry crisp, red plums, bourbon-soaked maraschino cherries, strawberry rhubarb pie, red currants, toasted walnuts, and cedar on the finish. The beautiful underlying tannin structure, complexity, and ample fruit will evolve over time and age gracefully for 15-20 years.

WINEMAKER: *Jason Moulton*

APPELLATION: *Napa Valley*

COMPOSITION: *94% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Petit Verdot*

ACCOLADES: *94+ points - Wine Advocate, 91 points - Wine Spectator, 91 points - Wine Enthusiast*

ALCOHOL: *14.9%*

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