

PROFILE

COLLECTION

2015 PROFILE NAPA VALLEY RED WINE

BLEND

- 90% Cabernet Sauvignon
- 5% Petit Verdot
- 5% Cabernet Franc

APPELLATION

Napa Valley

VINEYARD

Profile Estate Vineyard

HARVEST DATES

September 10-17, 2015

BRIX AT HARVEST

24-26°

COOPERAGE

80% new Taransaud and Sylvain

ÉLEVAGE

26 months

ALCOHOL

14.7%

TA

5.1 g/L

PH

3.8



2015 PROFILE

NAPA VALLEY RED WINE

WINEMAKING

Our Profile proprietary red blend showcases the very best fruit from each harvest, sourced exclusively from our gorgeous hillside estate vineyard located east of St. Helena. Overlooking the Napa Valley, the Profile Estate Vineyard lies on an eastern ridge at almost one thousand feet of elevation. Planted in 1997 by David Abreu, Michel Rolland and then winemaker Bob Levy, the 25-acre vineyard is comprised of four different clones of Cabernet Sauvignon, along with two acres of Petit Verdot and one acre of Cabernet Franc. The steep slopes, rocky soils and volcanic ash bedrock make it a very challenging site to farm, yet this vineyard consistently delivers grapes that stand out for their plush fruit character, complexity and silky tannin.

The grapes were hand-harvested at night in order to get the fruit into the cellar by very early morning and as fresh as possible. Each lot was fermented separately in small tanks. Native fermentation began after a 5-day cold soak and reached a peak temperature of 90°F. The wines were pumped over a few times a day until dryness and the total time in tank was around 15 days. After that, the wines were drained to barrels where malolactic fermentation occurred. We aged the wine for 26 months in 80% new French oak barrels from Taransaud and Sylvain. The wine was bottled without fining or filtration.

VINTAGE

The 2015 growing season in Napa Valley started out with unseasonably warm temperatures in the late winter and early spring. This resulted in an early bud break and bloom. Colder temperatures in May (during the peak of bloom) resulted in a smaller crop. Our vine-by-vine farming approach coupled with hand sorting in the vineyard and at the winery ensured that we picked and crushed only the best quality grapes. The harvest was one of the earliest on record in Napa Valley, beginning on July 22 for sparkling wine producers, and concluding for most vintners and growers by mid-October.

SENSORY IMPRESSIONS

2015 was a very early harvest for our Profile Estate Vineyard due to the dry, hot vintage. The vines had little vigor and carried little fruit. Consequently, harvest was quick and the fruit was ripe at the same time throughout the vineyard. The heat around harvest also resulted in very good extractability of tannins and color which allowed us to limit maceration time and only extract the best part of the skins. The finished wine is very dark in color and in flavor with hints of blackberries, dark cherries, cedar and dark chocolate. In the mouth, the velvet texture and fine grained tannins are remarkable. 2015 Profile is extremely long and concentrated and it should keep improving for another 10 to 20 years. Decant this wine in its youth.