



FLORA SPRINGS



2015 WINEMAKER NOTES

Petit Verdot is one of the noble red varieties of Bordeaux, valued by winemakers for the deep color, strong tannins and pronounced fruit flavors it adds to traditional red wine blends. We've planted small blocks of the variety in our Oakville and Rutherford vineyards, and often use it to add strength and complexity to our Trilogy red wine. We also bottle a small amount of the late-ripening variety on its own for a wine we offer exclusively to club members and winery visitors. The 2015 vintage yielded an opaque, inky wine with compelling flavors of dark plum, blueberry, cherry and pomegranate and accents of licorice and worn leather. Firmly structured with hints of warm vanilla from aging in French oak barrels, this is a full-bodied wine with notable tannins that will reward aging for several years. It will pair well with grilled Rib Eye, short ribs, pasta with red sauce and hard cheeses such as Parmesan or Asiago.

ALL THE FACTS

Appellation:	<i>Napa Valley</i>
Varietal:	<i>100% Petit Verdot</i>
Cases Produced:	<i>200</i>
Aging:	<i>17 months in 100% seasoned French oak barrels</i>
Suggested Retail Price:	<i>\$50</i>
Enjoyability:	<i>Drink now through 2021 for optimum enjoyment</i>

ON THE VINE

The 2015 vintage in Napa Valley will be remembered for high quality but low yields. The growing season began with warm temperatures in late winter and early spring resulting in an early bud break. In May, colder temperatures during bloom caused fruit set to be uneven, yielding a much smaller crop compared to earlier vintages. Winemakers and vineyard managers worked closely together as the season progressed to ensure grapes ripened uniformly. The harvest, which was in full swing by mid-August, was one of the earliest on record in Napa Valley, and most vintners completed picking by mid-October. Although the continuing drought was a concern around California, Napa Valley received 75% of its annual rainfall average in 2015 making it less worrisome for Napa vintners.