

# VALENTINE



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## 2015 CABERNET SAUVIGNON SPRING MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

### Vineyard

- Properties: Wurtele, Bales Creek, Gantner
- Appellation: Spring Mountain District
- Clonal Selections: 7,4,337,169,341
- Yields: 1.5-2 tons

### Growing Season

- 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) caused uneven fruit set which ultimately resulted in much smaller crop in 2015, compared to both average yields and also the three abundant years that preceded it. As a result, winemakers worked hand-in-hand with vineyard crews and also employed new technologies, like optical sorting, to ensure they picked and crushed only the best quality grapes. The harvest was one of the earliest on record in Napa Valley, beginning on July 22 with the picking of grapes for sparkling wine, and concluding for most all vintners and growers in the valley by mid-October. While ongoing drought was of great concern to farmers around California, Napa Valley received 75% of normal rainfall for the water year, bringing far fewer water concerns for Napa Valley's vintners.
- Harvest Date: September 15 and October 5
- Harvest Brix: 25.8

### Winemaking

- Hand harvested, picked at night
- Gently de-stemmed and whole berries transferred to stainless steel
- Cold Soaked for 48 Hours
- Inoculated with D254 yeast and fermented for 21 Days on skins
- Free run juice drained from tank, settled for 24 hours, then racked to barrel
- Aged 18 months in French Oak barrels, 66% new
- Coopers—Nadalie, Orion and Ermitage
- Composition—88% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Cabernet France, 4% Merlot

### Tasting Notes

- Dark boysenberry and cassis with plum and mulberry aromas are mingled with bay laurel, cocoa powder, clove and caramel. Bold and forward fruit tannins greet the palate balanced with ripe acidity and richness on the mid-palate that carries to a long and classically styled finish.

### Cases Produced

- 975 cases

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