



2015 RENNIE RESERVE WINEMAKER NOTES

Named for the founders of our historic 1885 winery, our Rennie Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon comes from a three-acre block on the Flora Springs Estate in the far southwest corner of the St. Helena appellation. We've farmed this piece of land for over 30 years, and with its well matched clone to soil selection and proper row orientation it is arguably the finest of our 350 acres of Napa Valley vineyard land. We call it Block C, a percentage of which we use to create our Rennie Reserve Cabernet. The low-yielding 2015 vintage produced a highly concentrated wine with a sweet entry that exudes plush flavors of blueberry, plum and black fig. The midpalate joins notes of espresso, saffras and cacao with the bright, abundant fruit, and the aging in French oak barrels gives the wine a warm, spicy mouthfeel and creamy depth. The 2015 is a substantial wine that can easily withstand a decade or more of cellaring, but its smooth, supple tannins also make it a pleasure to enjoy in its youth.

ALL THE FACTS

Appellation: *St. Helena*

Varietal: *100% Cabernet Sauvignon*

Cases Produced: *530*

Aging: *18 months, French (89%) and American oak barrels (11%), (40% new)*

Suggested Retail Price: *\$150*

Enjoyability: *Drink now or cellar. Pull the cork until 2035 for optimum enjoyment.*

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.