



2009

'CŒUR DE VALLÉE'

OAKVILLE, NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

The 'Cœur de Vallée' vineyard is situated in the world-renowned Oakville appellation, in the *heart* of the Napa Valley. The To Kalon Creek meanders through the spectacular property, which is planted to Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc. The beautiful view of Mount Saint John is a reminder of the alluvial fan that provided the well-draining soil, comprised of 40 to 60% of gravel. It is the confluence of the amazing pedigree of surrounding properties and the alluvial material originating from the Mayacamas Range that makes this vineyard so special. Handcrafted using classical winemaking techniques, this wine is named after its vineyard namesake. It is 'Heart of the Valley' or 'Cœur de Vallée.'



Proprietary name	'Cœur de Vallée'
Name meaning	Heart of the Valley
Varietal composition	Cabernet Sauvignon (76%) Cabernet Franc (24%)
Type of wine	Vineyard designated
Appellation	Oakville, Napa Valley
Vineyard singularity	Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard (2007-2016 vintages) Morlet Family 'Cœur de Vallée' Estate Vineyard (2017 vintage on) Bale soils; loamy topsoil on loamy & clay-loamy subsoils; consisting of 40%-60% gravel
Farming	Organic & sustainable farming
Harvest date	October 2009
Picking	Night pick; manual; small lugs; refrigerated truck
Sorting	Cluster-by-cluster & berry-per-berry by hand; Le Trieur™
Fermentation	Through native yeast; punch downs in stainless steel tanks & Darnajou French oak puncheons; Gyrobox™
Upbringing	16 months in French oak barrels from selected artisan coopers
Bottling	Unfined, unfiltered
Ideal cellaring	5 to 10 years after harvest date
Arc of aging	30+ years
Serving	61-64°F (16-18°C); Decant 1 hour prior to serving

TASTING NOTES

"Deep garnet-brick in color, the 2009 'Cœur de Vallée' opens with notions of sautéed herbs, pencil lead, and smoked meats over chocolate-covered cherries, menthol, and blackcurrant cordial at the core. Full-bodied, rich, and spicy, the palate is jam packed with bright, youthful black fruits, framed by plush tannins, finishing long and lifted."

97 points

Lisa Perrotti-Brown MW
The Wine Independent, Aug. 2022

