



2012

## '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 (75%) Cabernet Franc (25%)
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 2012
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

*"The 2012 'Cœur de Vallée' displays a wonderfully bright and lifted spicy herb character. Super concentrated, it is dense on the mid-palate, featuring pure and precise fine-grained tannins with a supple quality layered with fantastic complexity. There's terrific freshness, and the phenolics are remarkably elevated. The texture is utterly lovely, making the wine immensely pleasurable. Packed with richness, it is framed by a solid foundation of ripe tannins and filled with the generosity of ripe, dark-berry fruit. Beautifully savoury herbs and spices linger on the very long finish."*

99 points

Jonathan Cristaldi  
Decanter, Jan. 2025

*"A seamless piece of haute couture as winemaking goes, crème de cassis, spring flower, blueberry liqueur, charcoal ember and graphite notes are all present in this complex, full-bodied, multi-dimensional, flawlessly constructed 2012." "Luc Morlet's 2012 'Cœur de Vallée' is a mind-blowing effort, offering up notes of mocha, forest floor, blueberries, blackcurrants, asphalt, and licorice. Full-bodied and opulent, this 2012 is one of the vintage's superstars."*

97 points

Robert M. Parker, Jr.

Robert Parker Wine Advocate, Oct. 2013 & 2014

