



2016

'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 (87%) Cabernet Franc (13%)
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 2016
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

"Absolutely stunning. This is a remarkable wine with superb depth, intensity, and volume. All at once, it is deeply penetrating and light on its feet. Fresh and inviting on the nose, it exudes the purest blackberry and black cherry character, ripe currant fruit, tobacco, loamy earth, black truffle, and sage, all underscored by a pure salty-mineral intensity. On the palate, it bursts with energy, framed by superfine tannins and electric acidity that fuel the lengthy, bright, lifted, and remarkable finish. The 2016 'Cœur de Vallée' is stunningly complex, seamless, and perfectly balanced."

99 points

Jonathan Cristaldi
Decanter, Jan. 2025

"The 2016 'Cœur de Vallée' erupts with powerful black and blue berry notes - cassis, blueberries, and blackberry preserves - giving way to hints of mocha, licorice, and crushed rocks. Full-bodied, rich, velvety, and so, so concentrated, it has beautiful freshness, leading to a long, long, long finish on this beautiful wine." 98 points

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

