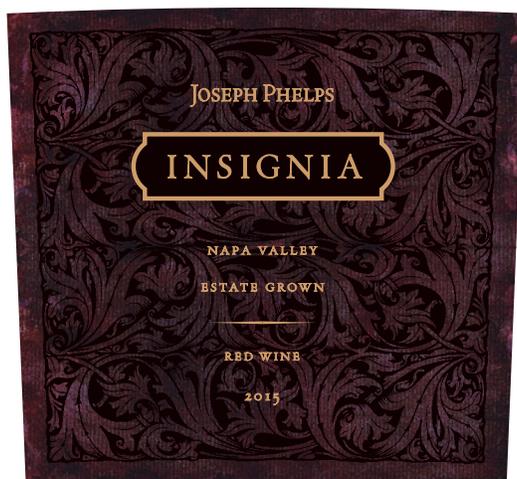


# JOSEPH PHELPS



## Joseph Phelps INSIGNIA, Napa Valley 2015

### Winemaking Data

**Harvest Dates:** September 8 - October 5, 2015.

**Blend:** 90% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Franc and 1% Malbec from estate-grown Napa Valley vineyards: 21% Las Rocas Vineyard (Stags Leap District), 20% Home Ranch Vineyard (St. Helena), 19% Yountville Vineyard (Oak Knoll District) 15% Suscol Vineyard (South Napa Valley), 15% Barboza Vineyard (Stags Leap District) and 10% Banca Dorada Vineyard (Rutherford).

**Aging:** 24 months in 100% new French oak from coopers Taransaud, Dargaud Jaegle, Demptos, Marcel Cadet and Sylvain.

**Winemaking Notes:** Optimum, even ripening for Insignia designated blocks was achieved by careful vineyard management throughout the growing season. Grapes were held separate during picking, sorting and fermentation.

The 2015 Insignia is densely hued with rich dark fruit, cocoa powder and fragrant dried flower notes. Velvety texture and weight on the palate with layers of juicy black plum, Madagascar vanilla and bergamot. Bold, creamy and supple with integrated tannin structure and a lengthy finish.

**Growing Season:** The 2015 Napa Valley growing season experienced dry, mild winter and spring temperatures similar to the prior three growing seasons. The majority of Cabernet Sauvignon was 50% through bud break by the end of March, followed by a normal period of bloom. May temperatures were unseasonably cool, but summer months were consistently warm, with heat spikes in September and October, creating conditions for a low-yielding vintage of high quality fruit from one of the earliest and most condensed harvests on record. Small berries and loose clusters led to intensely concentrated, rich flavors and full-bodied wines from the 2015 vintage.

**Review:** 98 Points, "The palate explodes with red and black currant fireworks plus some exciting mineral nuances coming through, framed by firm, grainy tannins and fantastic freshness, finishing very long and beautifully layered. -LPB, *Robert Parker Wine Advocate*, Dec. 2018