

Heitz Cellar

2015 Grignolino

St. Helena, Napa Valley



Winemaker's Insight

Grignolino is an Italian varietal from the Piedmont region in northern Italy. Our original Grignolino vines dating back to the 1940's were grown on "The Only One Vineyard" surrounding our present day Tasting Room. In 1966, cuttings from those vines were planted on 5 acres at our winery property in the hills of St. Helena. The Grignolino grape has large berries with many seeds, very thin skin and a light color. We have developed a great affection for Grignolino since we discovered it back in 1959 and are the only producer of a 100% varietal Grignolino in the U.S.

"The scent of fresh strawberries in the glass is followed by a lively mix of red fruits on the palate. Soaring acidity is sculpted with delicate tannins and a nip of white pepper adds an assertive note to the finish. . Lightly chilled, it is one of our favorite aperitifs, and of course, it is perfect with your favorite Italian meal."

- Brittany Sherwood, Winemaker

2015 Vintage

Although an early season, we will remember the 2015 wines as those with impeccable quality and a high concentration of color and flavor. Unusually warm weather in early spring caused an early bud break and bloom, followed by unseasonably cold weather in later spring, causing uneven and limited fruit set. This led to fewer berries on each cluster which dramatically reduced yields. From a winemaker's perspective this means that we saw tremendous quality coming into the winery. Small berries with a lower amount of juice meant that our reds were full of concentrated flavor and color. A warm summer following the early bloom lead to a historically early start and end to crush, beginning with our whites on August 13th and finishing the harvest on September 31st with Cabernet Sauvignon from Oakville. The quick season and the reduced yield allowed our winemaking team to focus on the high-quality fruit and give each lot an abundance of care and attention.

Wine Data

Varietal Composition: 100% Grignolino

AVA: St. Helena, Napa Valley

Alc. by vol: 12.5%

pH: 3.55 **TA g/L:** 6.0

Aging Regime: Fermented and aged in stainless steel tanks for 6-9 months.

Stewardship: Certified organic by CCOF; Fish Friendly Farming

Harvest Date: September 4, 2015

Release Date: December 1, 2017

Cases Produced: 1,598 cases

Founded in 1961, Heitz Cellar is a Napa Valley legend that has helped shape the history of Napa Valley winemaking. Pioneering vintner Joe Heitz ushered in Napa's modern era with his iconic, globally-celebrated wines, including Napa Valley's first vineyard-designated Cabernet Sauvignon, the renowned Heitz Cellar Martha's Vineyard. In 2018, the winery entered an exciting new chapter as the Heitz family passed this rich legacy into the hands of the Lawrence family, whose deep roots in agriculture and commitment to the same core values of fine winemaking made it a perfect match. Made with an unwavering commitment to quality from organically farmed, 100% Napa Valley fruit, Heitz celebrates its agrarian roots and commitment to the stewardship of Napa Valley.