



Joseph Phelps

The 2015 Joseph Phelps Insignia delivers a bold and opulent interpretation of Napa Valley, showcasing extraordinary concentration and elegance from a low-yielding vintage.

JOSEPH PHELPS
VINEYARDS

Insignia 2015

California, USA

Region and Vineyards

Sourced exclusively from estate vineyards, the 2015 Insignia embodies the geographical diversity and complexity of **Napa Valley's top sub-appellations**. The backbone of the wine comes from **Las Rocas (21%)** and **Barboza (15%)** in the **Stags Leap District**, famed for their gravelly soils and capacity to produce structured, finely textured wines. The **Home Ranch Vineyard in St. Helena** contributes 20%, adding mid-palate density and black fruit richness.

Another significant component, **Yountville Vineyard in Oak Knoll District (19%)**, brings elegance, freshness, and aromatic clarity. **Suscol Vineyard (15%)**, located in the cooler South Napa zone, adds lift and acidity, while **Banca Dorada (10%)** in **Rutherford** lends classic Napa structure and dusty minerality. This strategic composition results in a multidimensional wine of great aging potential.

Winemaking

The 2015 blend is composed of **90% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Franc**, and **1% Malbec**. Precision vineyard management was crucial during this challenging growing season, marked by one of the earliest and most condensed harvests in estate history.

Each block was harvested, sorted, and fermented separately to preserve its character. The wine was aged for **24 months in 100% new French oak**, using barrels from esteemed coopers including Taransaud, Dargaud Jaegle, Demptos, Marcel Cadet, and Sylvain. This élevage imparted spice, structure, and depth, supporting the wine's luxurious fruit and textural polish. The result is a **bold, creamy, and supple** cuvée with finely integrated tannins and age-worthy balance.

Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep ruby with opaque core and purple highlights.
- **Aroma:** Rich dark fruit with notes of cocoa powder, dried violet, Madagascar vanilla, and bergamot.
- **Palate:** Explosive flavors of juicy black plum, red and black currants, and subtle mineral tones. Creamy, full-bodied texture with well-knit tannins and a long, layered finish.



Alcohol :14,50 %

Composition: 90% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Franc, 1% Malbec



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Insignia 2015

Did you know?

The 2015 vintage was one of **Napa Valley's most compact harvests on record**, lasting less than a month. Small berry size and loose clusters led to wines of remarkable **intensity and structure**, offering a concentrated core of fruit balanced by freshness and precision.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Braised beef short ribs with red wine reduction:** The wine's dark fruit and supple tannins pair seamlessly with the richness of the dish.
- **Lamb tagine with dried fruits and spices:** Enhances the wine's exotic spice and floral undertones.
- **Porcini and truffle polenta:** A refined vegetarian pairing that reflects the wine's earthy, creamy depth.
- **Roasted duck with cherry glaze:** The sweet-savory profile amplifies the black plum and vanilla layers of the wine.



Robert Parker (RP) : 98 Points (2015)

The 2015 Insignia Proprietary Red Wine is blended of 90% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Franc and 1% Malbec aged for 24 months in 100% new French oak. Deep garnet-purple colored, it opens with stunning black and red plums, cassis and mulberries scents with loads of redcurrant sparks and compelling wafts of lilacs, pencil shavings, black olives and tilled soil plus a hint of bay leaves. Medium to full-bodied, 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. 12,400 cases produced.



Wine Enthusiast (WE) : 97 Points (2015)

This vintage of the perennial knockout is exceptional—a concentrated blend of 90% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Franc and 1% Malbec. Pencil shavings, red currant and red plum are complemented by hints of crushed rock and cocoa, with persistent acidity maintaining balance. Like so many of its forebears, this is a wine well worth cellaring; enjoy 2025–2035. Cellar Selection



James Suckling (JS) : 97 Points (2015)

This shows finesse and beauty with dark berries and wet earth. Subtle. Very fine-grained. Medium to full body. Bright and vivid. Lovely length and intensity. Drink or hold.

