



2021 BELLE COUSINE HYDE VINEYARD, CARNEROS, NAPA VALLEY

WINERY

Hyde de Villaine was co-founded by the Hyde family of Napa Valley and the de Villaine family of Burgundy. Aubert de Villaine, Co-Director of Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, married Larry Hyde's cousin, Pamela, bringing the two families together. Hyde de Villaine wines represent the shared histories and winemaking philosophies of these families and one iconic single vineyard.

WINE

The name Belle Cousine is a reference to Pamela Fairbanks de Villaine, Larry Hyde's lovely cousin who is the wife of Aubert de Villaine of Burgundy. It is Pamela who brings these visionary viticultural families from Burgundy and the Carneros region of Napa Valley together to make wines that express the character of place, with that rare minerality so dear to the Burgundian palate. Belle Cousine is a blend of Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon that varies each vintage; Merlot from Niebaum selections and Cabernet from Bordeaux-origin selections.

VINEYARDS

The vineyard is certified Napa Green Land and Fish Friendly Farming and Larry Hyde uses a variety of biodynamic and organic practices in the vineyard; the wines are unfinned and unfiltered.

VINTAGE NOTES

Despite the severe drought conditions that dictated the growing season, 2021 remained a very calm vintage with no heat spikes or natural disasters leading to Harvest. The mild weather, along with lower yields, elevated the concentration of freshness and flavors in the grapes, resulting in intensely layered wines, but with precision and focus. An age-worthy vintage, along the lines of 2015 or 2017, that proved to be some of the best wines we have ever produced.

WINEMAKING

Aged in 20% New French oak for 18 months. Unfiltered and unfinned.

TASTING NOTES

Fresh blueberry, tart red cherry, and cola are balanced by aromas of anise and creme de violette—intriguing notes of cassis bud, graphite and dark chocolate lend to the complexity. Integrated, fine-grained tannins add length and are framed by juicy acidity. This wine shows freshness and concentration but would benefit from cellar aging. A versatile wine that will enhance any meal!

— Guillaume Boudet, Winemaker

VINEYARDS

Region:	California
Appellation:	Napa Valley
Sub-Appellation:	Los Carneros
Soil:	Haire Loam Clay
Vineyard Size:	2.3 acres
Age/Exposure:	21 to 37 years South by southwest exposure
Eco-Practices:	Sustainable, Solar, Vegan
Certifications:	Napa Green Land and Fish Friendly Farming

WINEMAKING

Varietals:	20% Merlot, 80% Cabernet Sauvignon
Barrel Aging:	20% New French oak

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Alcohol:	14.2%
Total Acidity:	5.5 g/L
pH:	3.6 g/L