

MARR

Winemaking Philosophy

Crafting wines that are extremely fruit-forward in flavor, Marr Cellars is a winery that meticulously creates superlative wine. Our emphasis is to work with small lots of high quality grapes from vineyards with distinctive character and concentration. During harvest, all grapes are cooled, hand sorted, destemmed (not crushed) and "cold soaked" prior to fermentation. Some lots are fermented with indigenous yeast; however, most are inoculated with specific strains to accentuate vineyard and varietal characteristics. Extended maceration is completed as needed. Following slow, cooler fermentation all lots are lightly pressed. Blending is done after aging in French Oak from assorted forests and coopers. The resulting wines are complex with good fruit depth, natural balanced acidity, hints of spice, and soft tannins to complete a memorable, lingering finish.

Vineyard Relationships

Mattern Ranch

Mattern Ranch is located southeast of Ukiah, on the east side of the Russian River near Talmadge. This well drained vineyard features low yielding, head pruned Old Vine Zinfandel, planted around 1930, with newer plantings of Zinfandel and Petite Sirah. We harvest grapes from their older blocks. The vineyard is physically situated in a western sloping benchland area, east of the Russian River, and features low yielding, head pruned vines.

Alger Vineyards

Alger Vineyards is located in Tehama County, on the western slopes of Mount Lassen, near Manton, California. This vineyard was planted to Petite Sirah and Syrah in the mid 1970s. Recently, additional blocks have been planted to Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec, Petite Verdot, Zinfandel, and Viognier. The vineyard is comprised of well-drained and volcanic soils that are gently rolling to the west between 2,400 and 2,500 feet in elevation. The cool mountain nights and warm (if not hot) days provide ideal growing conditions for high quality wine grapes.

Rominger Vineyards

The Rominger family has been ranching in Yolo County, north of Winters, since shortly after the Gold Rush Era. Their ranch operation is truly diversified. It includes not only wheat, rice, and tomatoes, but it also includes wine grapes. Where the Sacramento Valley meets the east side of the Coast Range in Yolo County is where Charlie Rominger has planted a large number of varietals. His plantings are used for root stock grafting material, as well as wine grape production. His meticulous care and attention to detail provides wines that are concentrated with fully mature, balanced flavors. The warm (sometimes hot) summer days and cool evening breezes help to provide very consistent, high-quality fruit every year.