

MATTHIASSEN VINEYARDS

NAPA VALLEY



Matthiasson produces a number of wines from both Napa and Sonoma. They are known for their white wines but also produce several excellent reds. This is one of those small Napa producers totally under the radar and visits are usually with the owners, husband and wife Steve Matthiasson and Jill Klein Matthiasson (Steve is the winemaker and viticulturist). The Matthiasson's are farmers; both Steve and Jill have backgrounds in agriculture. Steve became interested in gardening while in college and Jill studied botany and worked for a family farming non-profit.

Their home vineyard (Matthiasson) is located on the western part of the Oak Knoll District just north of the city of Napa and it's encroaching suburbs. They grow some very unique varietals here (compared to Napa's general focus on Bordeaux and Burgundian varietals) including Refosco, Ribolla gialla, Tocai friulano and Schioppettino (along with Merlot and Petit verdot). In addition to grapes, they have a diversity of other crops including various fruit trees, olives and a giant avocado tree (quite rare to find one of these on the valley floor). They manage and source from a number of other vineyards, mostly in Napa but also in neighboring Sonoma County.

Steve Matthiasson is also the chief winemaking consultant for Stag's Leap Wine Cellars, Araujo Estate, Spottswoode and Hall. Steve operates his own vineyard management consulting company and is actively involved in all vineyard decisions (including the vineyards they source grapes from). With the Matthiasson label, they specialize in several wines, a Napa Red, a Napa White, Chardonnay (their most produced wine) and a 100% Merlot. Total production is around 3,000 cases.

“Winemaking for us is a natural extension of farming, and most of our grapes come from the seven vineyards that we farm in Napa and Sonoma. We love to explore classical expressions of different varieties, some well known like Chardonnay or Cabernet Sauvignon, and some rare like Ribolla Gialla or Refosco Dal Peduncula Rosso. In all cases we try to respect the purity of the variety and the individuality of the site. By using our site-specific farming methods to grow intense fruit, coupled with careful restraint in the cellar, we strive to produce wine that is full flavored but impeccably balanced.” Steve Matthiasson

San Francisco Winemaker of the Year 2014



“The more you know about wine, the more you'll want to know about us.”

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