

Stags' Leap Winery

STAGS' LEAP WINERY IS DISTINGUISHED BY ITS HISTORIC ROOTS, which date back to the 1890s. Passing through the hands of the prominent Chase and Grange families, the property was named Stags' Leap after an Indian legend – one dramatic version speaks of a stag leaping across the palisades to escape hunters. Completion of the estate's stone winery and first vintage were recorded in 1893 and a gracious Manor House and guesthouse still stand today. Also of historical note is that the property boasts the excavation of the first wine storage caves on the east side of Napa Valley and, the origins of what is thought to be the first inground freshwater swimming pool in Northern California. Stags' Leap became a center of high society, attracting the era's most prominent politicians, artists, and writers. In its peak, it became a famous resort of the 1950's, the refuge for San Franciscans fleeing the cold July fog and film stars dogged by press and fans.

The present winemaker, Christophe Paubert, is a native of Bordeaux, and was introduced to wine-making by his grandfather, who was a cellar master. Paubert graduated from the Institut d'Oenologie de Bordeaux in 1983, and since then, his career has spanned the industry from sales to wine-making. His impressive wine-making background includes positions at Chateau d'Yquem and Gruaud-Larose, as well as projects in Chile, Spain, and New Zealand.

"I am deeply impressed by the history of Stags' Leap Winery, the estate vineyards and the wines that have been made here," says Paubert. "I believe that wine should express the uniqueness of the land and, Stags' Leap wines have always showcased one of the most distinctive regions in the Napa Valley."



Stags' Leap Winery, known for producing wines of finesse and intensity, is located in the heart of the Stags Leap District, the three mile long appellation that is named after the winery, being one of California's earliest wine estates.

The complete Stags' Leap Winery portfolio includes a Rosé, Viognier, Chardonnay, Merlot and Petite Syrah all bearing the Napa Valley appellation.. The 85-acre Estate vineyard is divided into 23 separate blocks based on soil type and exposure to the sun, in a combination of valley floor and hillside slope plantings. Year after year, the Estate vineyards continue to yield exceptional wines. The Leap is an Estate grown Cabernet Sauvignon and Ne Cede Malis, a unique Rhône-style field blend featuring 16 different varietals from a single block – both are flagship wines worthy of guarding in the cellar or accompanying a gourmet meal. Stags' Leap wines can be found on the most exclusive wine lists and are known among top sommeliers for their balance and outstanding ability to pair with food.

Stags' Leap Winery's unique terroir, ideal microclimate, and tradition of stewardship supports a classical standard of viticulture and wine-making that is as relevant today as it was a century ago. ●



Stag's Leap Manor House (above); Winemaker Christophe Paubert (left)