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Educators Immersion Tour

January 2025

Presented by California Wines





A History of California Wine

thru the lens of 12 glasses....

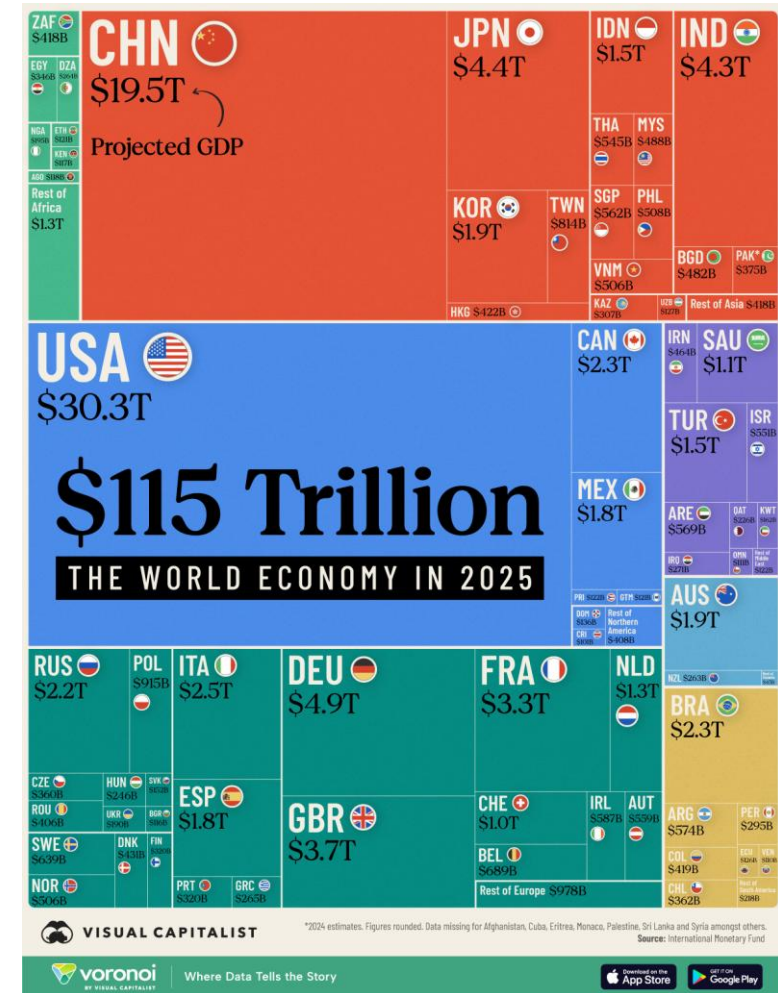


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Before you make an apple pie from scratch.....

- Just five countries will make up more than half of the world's entire GDP in 2025: the U.S., China, Germany, Japan, and India. India replaced the UK as 5th in the top five economy after 2024.
- Adding on another five countries, the top 10 make up 66% of the global economy, while the top 25 countries comprise 84% of global GDP.
- The rest of the world — the remaining 167 nations — make up just 16% of global GDP. Many of the smallest economies are islands located in Oceania.
- **In the USA, California has the largest GDP among US states at \$3.9 trillion which would make her the 5th largest economy in the world if she were independent**

Source: Source: IMF (International Monetary Fund)

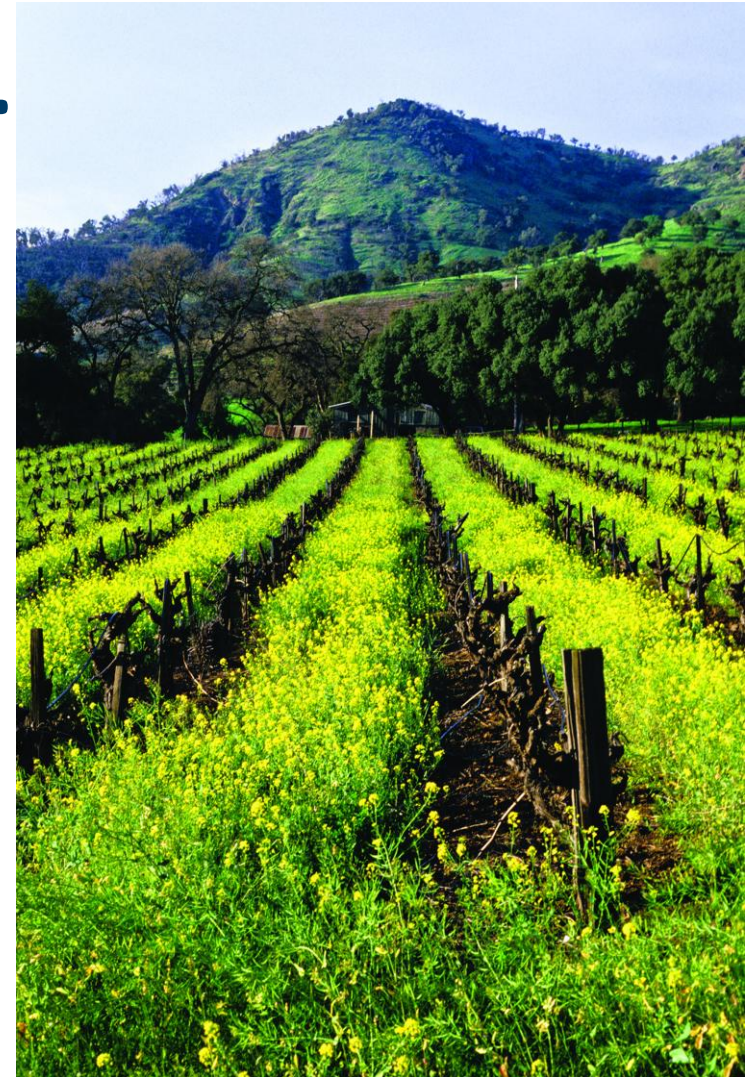


As we begin our journey, we know that....

California is the 4th largest wine producer in the world (after France, Italy, and Spain)

In the first half of 2024, US wine exports grew by 8.3% in volume and 6.7% in value (Source: Vinetur)

In 2023, California wine sales within the U.S., the world's largest wine market, were 2.057 million cases and \$63.6 billion- since 2001, that is a heroic increase (177 million cases and \$21.8 billion) (Source: CWI)



Source: Discovercalifornia.com

California is the leader in North America....

Per Wine Business Analytics (2/1/2024), there were **11,620 wineries in the United States in 2023, 1% less than in 2022.**

In 2023, **California had 4,949 bonded wineries**, which = 43% of all wineries in the United States! (Source: WineBusiness Analytics)

In 2002, there were 1,700 bonded wineries and in 2019 there were 4,500 ...

Grapes are grown throughout the state, in 49 of the 58 counties, making wine a statewide industry and not limited to just a few locations.

Grapes are one of the top three crops grown in California; the state has over 400 agricultural crops and produces over a third of the country's vegetables and two-thirds of the fruits and nuts.

Prominence of the Golden State!

81% of U.S. wine comes from California

95% of U.S. wine exports come from California

App. 275 million 9-liter cases are produced annually

App. 4 million tons (3.6 billion kilograms) of wine grapes are harvested annually

In 2023, California produced 605,981,608 gallons of wine (22,938,899 hectoliters)



Source: Discovercalifornia.com

Wine's Important here!

It drives tourism— over 23 million people a year visit wine countries and collectively Napa and Sonoma valleys, at 4 million in 2023, are the #2 tourism destination in California after Disneyland!

Source: <https://www.vrbo.com/vacation-ideas/travel-guides/getaways/wine-country-getaways-and-meetingstoday.com>

The California wine industry directly employs some 255,734 people and generates an additional 116,192 jobs in supplier and ancillary industries which supply goods and services.

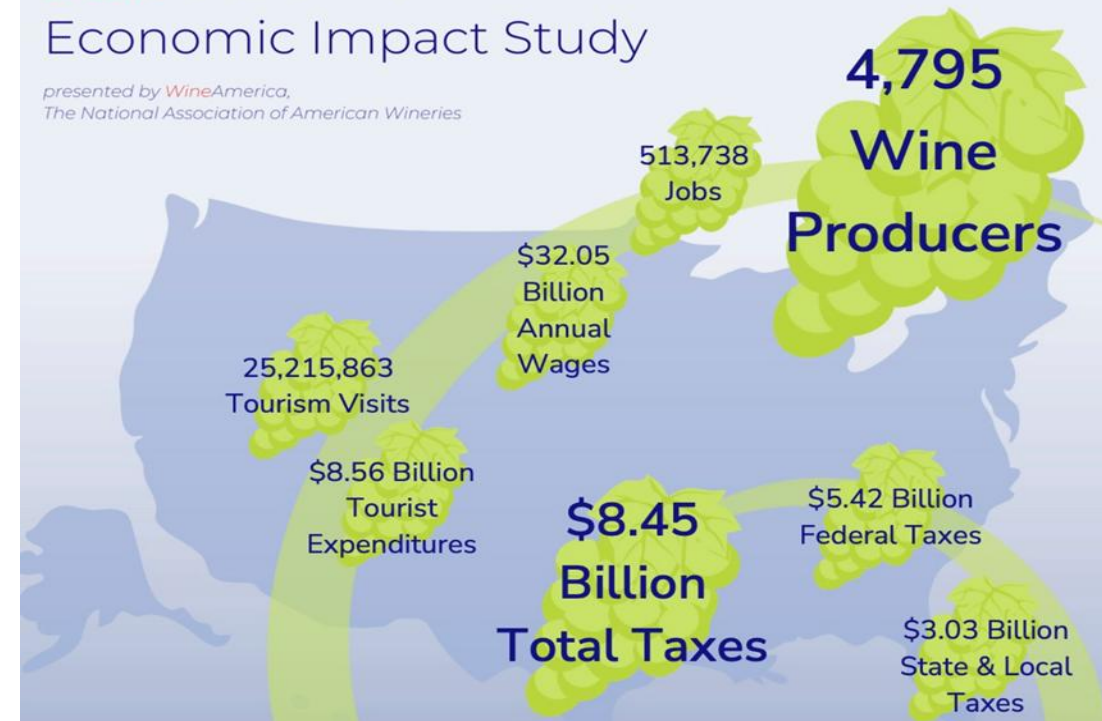
Ultimately, 513,738 jobs are created and supported by the wine industry

Source: <https://wineamerica.org/economic-impact-study/california-wine-industry/>

What's Wine Worth?

2022 California Economic Impact Study

presented by WineAmerica, The National Association of American Wineries



WHAT'S IN A BOTTLE OF WINE?

\$88.12 BILLION

Total Impact

National Economic Impact Study of the American Wine Industry 2022* by John Dunham & Associates, New York. Details at www.wineamerica.org

Diversity reigns....

California vintners and growers are leaders in combining tradition and innovation.

Nearly 6,000 winegrape growers produce more than 110 varieties in California's myriad American Viticultural Areas (AVAs) (Source: CAWG)

Multi-generational families, many originally from Western Europe, have deep roots in California, and the state continues to attract talent from around the world.

The state has 154 AVA's (and counting....)

Newest being Crystal Springs of Napa Valley, Winters Highlands, and Long Valley-Lake County with a soon-to-be new Carmel Coast AVA (submitted in 10/2022)

History of California Wines



Inglenook Winery (Napa Valley)

History of California I: The Earliest Days...

1769: First wine grapes in California are planted by Franciscan missionary Father Junipero Serra at Mission San Diego de Alcalá

1771: The oldest winery in California, Mission San Gabriel, is founded near Los Angeles

Beginning in 2022, Byron Blatty, Angeleno, and Cavalletti wines in LA produced small amounts of wine from this site (250 + year old vine(s))

1833: First *imported vines* from Europe brought in by California's first commercial winegrower, Jean-Louis Vignes, to the Los Angeles area



Punctuation Pointer(s)

Late 1830's: Vignes was quickly followed in Southern California by William Wolfskill who then owned more than 145 acres of vineyards in Los Angeles and Southern California. *

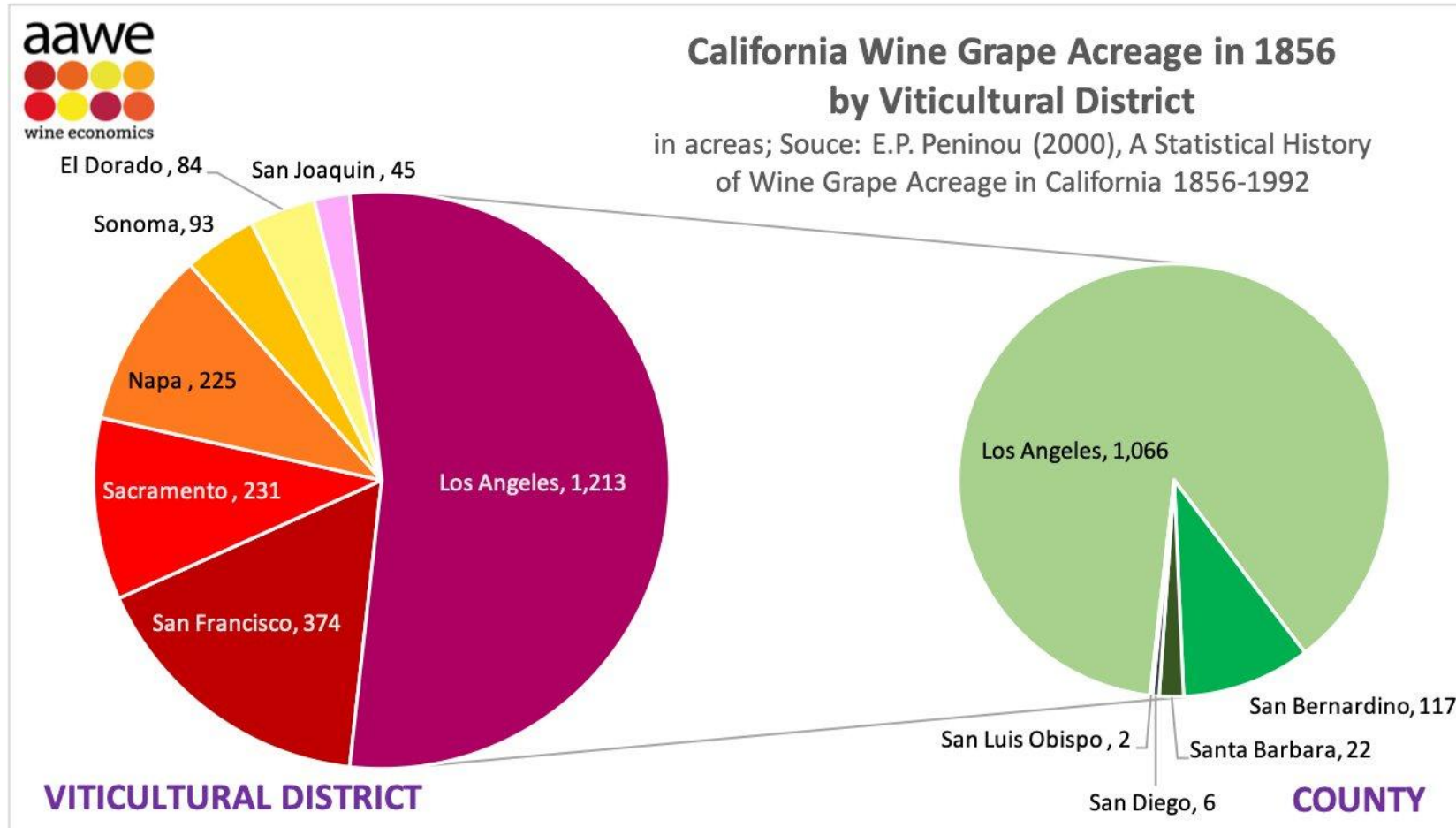
East of Los Angeles, in Rancho Cucamonga, which is not far from San Bernardino, vines were planted in 1838

Charles Kohler and John Frohling started planting in what would soon become Anaheim, California, close to Los Angeles in 1852.

*Source: thewinecellarinsider.com (photo to right as well)



And before you think it was all up North...



Wine 1: Miraflores Winery Misión 1853

Vintage and ABV: 2022/ 14.1%

Provenance: El Dorado County (Plymouth AVA)

Assemblage: 100% Mission

Elevage: N/A

Why this wine: The 1st grape of California and being revisited by new winemakers who respect its legacy (Angeleno, Blatty, Cavaletti, Raj Parr, etc..)

Grapes, sourced from the Deaver vineyard, were planted in 1853, hence the name of the wine..

Miraflores Winery was founded in 1998 by Dr. Victor Alvarez.



Wine 2: Carol Shelton 'Monga' Zinfandel

Vintage and ABV: 2013/14.8%

Provenance: Cucamonga Valley (Lopez Vineyard)

Assemblage: 100% Zinfandel (Planted 1918, dry-farmed bush vines)

Elevage: 9 months in all American barrels, 15% new.

Why this wine: The importance of LA county/Cucamonga (San Bernardino) to early California and still exists

Carol Shelton sleuths older vines from distinct provenances

She also drove the petition for approval of Rockpile as an AVA along with the Mauritsen family back in 2002— thank you Carol!!



History of California II- The north evolves

1834: When Mexican government abandons the Sonoma Mission, General Mariano Vallejo takes over its vineyard, expands it, and becomes Sonoma's first commercial winegrower

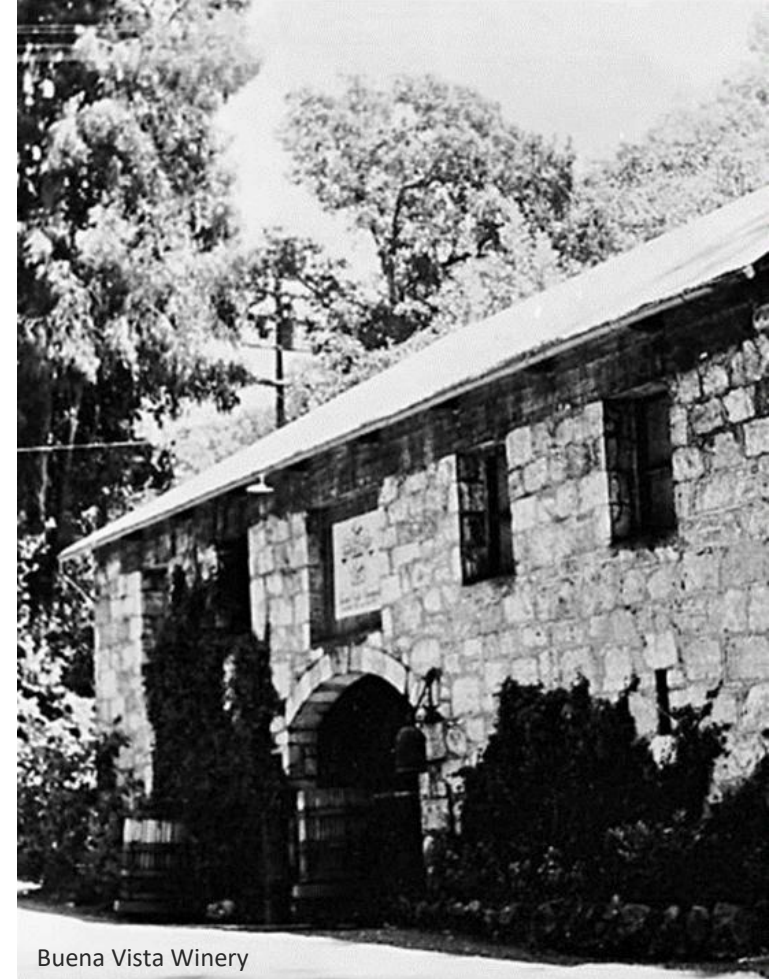
1836: Explorer George Calvert Yount plants first vines in the (to-be) Napa Valley in (to be) Yountville

Land was a grant from the Mexican government, as California was not yet awarded statehood, and was still part of Mexico

1854: John Patchett created 1st *official* vineyard and winery in the Napa Valley (vines in 1854, wines in 1857, cellar in 1859)

FYI, his winemaker was Charles Krug, who would go on to form his own winery in a few years

Source: thewinecellarinsider.com



Buena Vista Winery

Punctuation Pointers

The Gold Rush (**1848 – 1855**) brought with it an influx of people to Northern California; in 1848, population of San Francisco swelled from 1,000 – 25,000 – Really!! (Source: UC Davis Library.edu)

1859: Los Angeles' wine industry was given an added boost when the city agreed that no taxes would be imposed on land used for planting grapes. *

1860's: Abraham Lincoln was the first President to purchase and serve California wine. *

*Source: thewinecellarinsider.com



Source: Legendsofamerica.com

Milestone:
1850

210,000
9-liter cases
produced in
California



History of California Wines III: After the Goldrush

1856-1858: After the Gold Rush, plantings vastly expand in California from 1.5 million vines to nearly 4 million vines in two years

1857: Agoston Haraszthy founds Buena Vista Winery, California's first commercial winery, in Sonoma

1861: Charles Krug founds Napa Valley's first commercial winery



Source: Guildsomm

About Agoston:

Agoston Haraszthy brought close to 100,000 grapevine cuttings from Europe (mostly vines from Hungary) to the area.

His initial idea was to plant in San Mateo and San Francisco. But the cold, foggy mornings forced him to seek sunnier lands.

He uprooted his vines from San Francisco and replanted them in Sonoma at the newly named Buena Vista Winery.

At the time, the land was cheap in Sonoma, selling for as little as \$6 per acre. In time, due to his success, prices climbed to \$150 per acre.

By 1860, Haraszthy owned more than 2000 hectares acres of land. 1861 saw Haraszthy return to Europe to collect 200,000 cuttings and vines consisting of 1,400 different grape varieties for planting in California both for his vineyards and those of other growers in the region.

Punctuation Pointers:

1850's: With more acreage than Napa, Sonoma County began developing before the Napa Valley.

With Buena Vista founded in 1857 and Gundlach Bundschu in 1858, it can be said that Sonoma is actually the official birthplace of the California wine industry in Northern Coastal California.

The Korbel brothers began making the first Champagne-style wines in Sonoma during the 1880s.

1860's: As noted, Napa Valley history really gets its start when the Charles Krug winery in Napa was founded in 1861.

Other wineries quickly followed. Jacob Schram founded Schramsberg in 1862. FYI, Schramsberg became so popular that President Benjamin Harrison served it in the White House at official functions (he was 23rd President of the USA while Lincoln was 16th)

And in 1868, Hamilton W Crabb purchased 97 hectares of what was still farmland from the family of George Yount. This land eventually became the famous To-Kalon vineyard.

*Source: thewinecellarinsider.com



Charles Krug Winery

Wine 3: Beringer Private Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon

Vintage and ABV: 1978/12.8%

Provenance: Saint Helena AVA (Napa Valley)

Assemblage: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Elevage: 24 months in French oak

Why this wine: Beringer's/Napa Valley early 19th century establishment and importance (1876)...

Private Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon was dreamt up in 1977 by winemaker Myron Nightingale and then-assistant winemaker Ed Sbragia, who would go on to become one of Napa Valley's great Cabernet masters



Wine 4: Terra d'Oro Deaver Vineyard Zinfandel

Vintage and ABV: 2021/15.5%

Provenance: Shenandoah AVA (Amador County)

Assemblage: 100% Zinfandel (vineyard planted in 1884)

Elevage: 18 months in French oak (20% new)

Why this wine: Importance of the Sierra Foothills/Gold Country being established in the back half of the 19th century

The 8.1-hectare Deaver Vineyard is one of the original Zinfandel plantings in Sierra Foothills and the vines have served as parent cuttings for many vineyards in the greater region (along with the original Grandpere vvd)



Wine 5: Concannon Heritage Estate Petite Sirah

Vintage and ABV: 2015/14.3%

Provenance: Livermore Valley

Assemblage: 100% Petite Sirah

Elevage: American, French and Hungarian oak puncheons for 20 months

Why this wine: Importance of Livermore, Concannon and 1) the Concannon clone Cabernet aka UCD Clone 6 and 7- the workhorse of California in the 1970s and 1980s (cuttings from Chateau Margaux) and 2) introducing “America’s 1st Petite Sirah” in 1964 from his 1961 vintage





And now a break while we
pour wines six through twelve..



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History of California Wine IV: Difficult Times

1900: American wine industry prospers with wines exported around the world

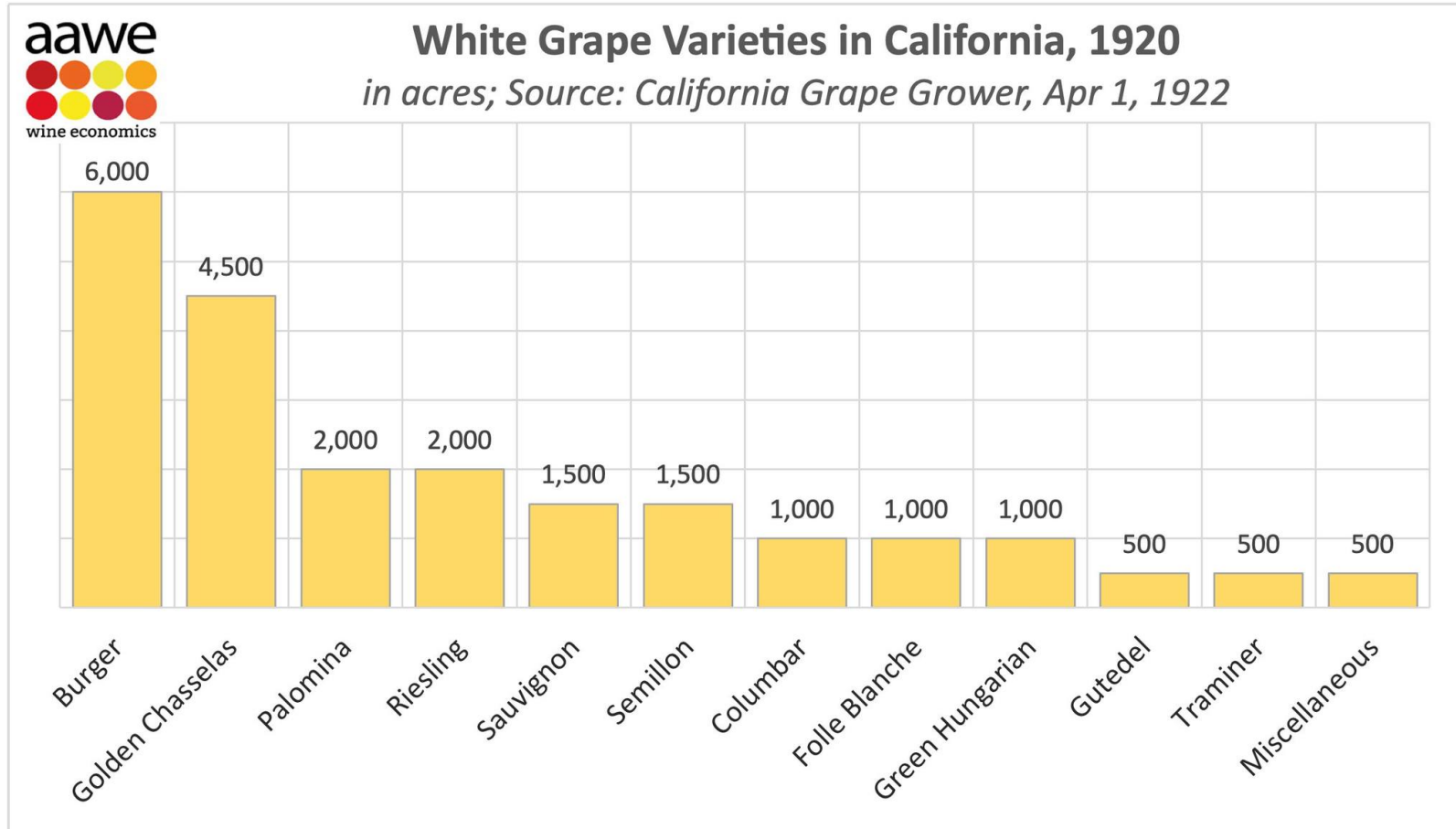
Wines sold as far away as Australia, Central America, England and even Asia.

1919: Prohibition in the U.S. outlaws the commercial production of wine – California wine production drops 94% (minor exceptions)

1933: Prohibition is repealed, and industry starts up again...



Grape Profile- California Whites in 1920!



Note there is absolutely no Chardonnay to call out!

And during Prohibition...

To survive, the larger companies sold grape juice in barrels with heavy amounts of SO₂. When the barrels were opened, and enough air was added to the grape juice, the fermentation process could begin, which turned the grape juice into wine.

Most people just gave up, abandoned their land, and allowed their vines to die. Those who stubbornly remained were reduced to selling Sacramental wines at best or dry must (better known as raisin cakes) to home winemakers for their own wine for 'so-called' religious purposes

The raisin cakes were sold with explicit instructions on how not to allow the product to develop any degree of alcohol, which was a not-so-secret code that informed consumers how to make wine. (aka 'the loophole')

Prior to 1919, more than 2,500 wineries were licensed to make wine in America. Yet by 1933, less than 100 remained!

History of California Wine V: Post Repeal..

1933: Ernest and Julio Gallo start E. & J. Gallo Winery in Modesto; today it is the largest winery in the world

1934: The California Wine Institute is established.

1935: University of California at Berkeley and Davis lead viticulture and winemaking research and education

Maynard Amerine was one of the first faculty member hired into this newly formed department at Davis



Credit: CWI

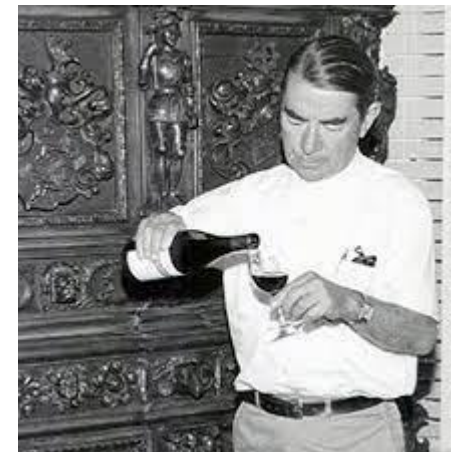
And then comes Andre...

Andre Tchelistcheff was hired by Georges de Latour. He moved to California from France and joined Beaulieu Vineyards in 1938.

It was Andre who---

1. Began thinking about frost protection during the growing season.
2. Pioneered the need for proper sanitation and the use of small, French oak barrels for the aging of the wine.
3. Insisted that malolactic fermentation become part of the wine-making process.
4. Eliminated pasteurization and introduced the technique of cold fermentation to increase the color and concentration of the wine.
5. Introduced modern, viticulture practices of Europe including replanting the vineyards with higher levels of density, reducing the amount of sulfur used in the vineyards, and more importantly, focused on planting high-quality French grape varietals.

He worked tirelessly until he passed in 1994 at the age of 93!



Source: Beaulieu Vineyard

Punctuation Pointers:

1940's: Napa Valley was on its way to becoming active again. Close to 2428 hectares (6,000 acres) were planted.

Did you know?: Louis Martini was among the first California wineries to bottle wines made from specific grape varieties; Inglenook was selling wines made from Cabernet Sauvignon by 1934!

Late 1950's: Hanzell's James Zellerbach is among first to use small French oak for wine, designed the first temperature controlled stainless steel fermentation tanks, and was the first to use nitrogen in bottling.

Joseph Swan and Joe Rochioli followed in the footsteps of Zellerbach with Swan being the first Pinot Noir producer in Sonoma to popularize making wine using Burgundian methods, including whole-cluster fermentation, manual punch-downs, and aging in French oak barrels. The Swan Pinot Noir clone remains popular today.

Hip wine print advertising in 1962!

Classic Gallo wine advertisement from 1962. When wines were named after the regions the grapes were associates with (and all men looked liked George Clooney)

Source: American Association of Wine Economists



And on television...which gave us the great Julia Child

Long before Gordon Ramsey...



Source: americanhistory.si.edu Photo by Paul Child (Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University)

Wine 6: Hanzell Sonoma Valley Chardonnay

Vintage and ABV: 2002/14.5%

Provenance: Sonoma Valley

Assemblage: 100% Chardonnay (most all heirloom clones)

Elevage: 1 year in older 225-liter French Oak barrels (25% barrel fermented)

Why this wine: Hanzell's winemaking importance as delineated in usage of barrels and fermentation practices

Sourced from 13 hectares of Ambassador's 1953, Day, de Brie, Ramos, and Zellerbach vineyard blocks, all rocky volcanic and clay-loam soils.

Wente and Hanzell clones are planted primarily on St. George rootstock with an average vine age of thirty-five years.



Wine 7: Joseph Swan Northern Sonoma Estate Pinot Noir

Vintage and ABV: 1983/XX

Provenance: Laguna Ridge, Russian River Valley

Assemblage: 100% Pinot Noir

Elevage: N/A

Why this wine: Importance of Joseph Swan & the Swan clone of Pinot Noir

Planted by Joe in 1968, the original Pinot Noir field clonal selection was from Mt Eden (via France, Paul Masson, and then Martin Ray).

The vines prospered and the cuttings from the vineyard became widely distributed to other vineyards as the Swan clone or selection.



Wine 8: Beaulieu Vineyard Georges de Latour Private Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon

Vintage and ABV: 1981/13.1%

Provenance: Napa Valley (Rutherford)

Assemblage: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Elevage: 30 months in 50-gallon (189 liter) American oak barrels

Why this wine: The significance of BV and a legacy wine made by Andre Tchelistcheff in the back end of his amazing career. Legacy! 1st release of BV PR was in 1941.

Although he retired in 1973, he came back to assist/taste in 1991. BV's icon wine 'Maestro' is an homage to *the man*.



History of California Wine VI: The Renaissance

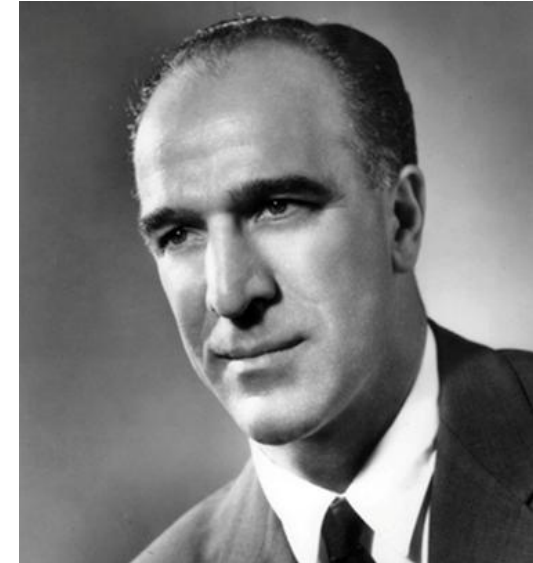
1960's-1970's: Many winemakers & winegrape growers see the great potential in California and start wineries

1966: Robert Mondavi establishes his winery in Napa Valley, the first major winery there since Prohibition

May 24, 1976: Judgment of Paris blind tasting, reported in Time Magazine, changes international perceptions of California wine when French judges select California wines as three of top four Chardonnays, and the top red

Link to original TIME article:

<https://content.time.com/time/subscriber/article/0,33009,947719,00.html>



JUNE 7, 1976

TIME

Judgement of Paris

Americans abroad have been boasting for years about California wines, only to be greeted in most cases by polite disbelief—or worse. Among the few fervent and respected admirers of *le vin de Californie* in France is

Galic Gems. As they swirled, sniffed, sipped and spat, some judges were instantly able to separate an imported upstart from an aristocrat. More often, the panel was confused. "Ah, back to France!" exclaimed

Wine 9 : Baciagalupi Russian River Chardonnay

Vintage and ABV: 2013/14.2%

Provenance: Russian River Valley

Assemblage: 100% Chardonnay

Elevage: N/A

Why this wine: The source of the fruit for Chateau Montelena's 1976 Judgment of Paris Chardonnay.

The wine came from the now-called 'Paris Block', a 1.62-hectare plot that Mike Grgich selected for the wine- still producing today (small amounts)



JoP EG Context.... 😊



And then there was Bob...

In 1965, Robert Mondavi left the family winery (Charles Krug) and founded his in Oakville with 2 partners, Ivan Schoch and Fred Holmes. Their initial purchase consisted of 4.86 hectares of vineyards that are now used for the winery, cellars, and offices at the Mondavi estate.

This was the first new winery built in the Napa Valley since Louis Martini constructed his estate back in 1933!

Prior to Robert Mondavi, few wines were sold varietally. Although Cabernet Sauvignon was sold by Charles Krug since the 1940s, the concept of focusing on fewer, specific grapes was the brainchild of Robert Mondavi (and can you say Fume Blanc!?!?)

In 1968, Schoch and Holmes sold their shares and Mondavi quickly took his profits and acquired 94 hectares of the adjacent To-Kalon vineyard.

In the following decade, the historic partnership between Robert Mondavi and Baron Philippe Rothschild of Chateau Mouton Rothschild that created Opus One in 1979 broke new ground opening up greater access to the world market for California wines.

Robert's efforts and pioneering ideas on the production, as well as the sales, distribution, and promotion of the California wine industry changed everything.

Wine 10: Robert Mondavi Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon

Vintage and ABV: 1976/13.3%

Provenance: Napa Valley (Oakville)

Assemblage: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Elevage: 27 months in French oak

Why this wine: You really have to ask that??

The 1976 was the only 100% varietal vintage in the history to date of the Mondavi Reserve.

Mondavi felt the wine had excellent balance without blending and so chose to leave out the Cabernet Franc as well as the Merlot that they had began incorporating in the 1970s



Wine 11 : Shafer Hillside Select Cabernet Sauvignon

Vintage and ABV: 2001/14.9%

Provenance: Stags Leap AVA, Napa Valley

Assemblage: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Elevage: 32 months in 100% new French oak

Why this wine: Emblematic of the 1970's push of Napa Valley estates establishing quality and legacy for the region and carving out provenance (AVA later established in 1989)

Renowned Napa Valley leader was purchased by Korea's Shinagae in 2022- a recent phenom of foreign investment: Platt Vineyard (AXA), Phelps (LVMH), Merry Edwards & Diamond Creek (Roederer), etc.



And by 1971...

50 years ago, California was ruled by Carignane, Zinfandel & Grenache. Chardonnay was only #19, Merlot even #50.

Source: American Association of Wine Economists

 Bearing Winegrape Acreage in California in 1971: Top 60 Varietals <i>in acres; Source: California Grape Acreage 1971</i>					
1 Carignane	25,795	21 Semillon	1,160	41 Malvasia Bianca	244
2 Zinfandel	19,470	22 Sauvignon Blanc	1,071	42 Green Hungarian	238
3 Grenache	12,428	23 White Riesling	1,068	43 St Macaire	231
4 French Colombard	7,835	24 Sylvaner	1,048	44 Grignolino	229
5 Mission	6,440	25 Sauvignon Vert	856	45 Almission	217
6 Alicante Bouchet	6,418	26 Black Malvoisie	810	46 St Emilion	191
7 Palomino	6,371	27 Gamay Beaujolais	742	47 Folle Blanche	183
8 Cabernet Sauvignon	3,898	28 Early Burgundy	711	48 Cabernet Franc	149
9 Petite Sirah	3,839	29 Gray Riesling	683	49 Flora	145
10 Chenin Blanc	2,903	30 Emerald Riesling	645	50 Merlot	121
11 Pinot Noir	2,420	31 Pinot Blanc	542	51 Pinot St George	101
12 Ruby Cabernet	2,218	32 Feher Szagos	516	52 Sangiovese/-vese	99
13 Rubired	2,135	33 Pedro Ximines	501	53 Nebbiolo	76
14 Royalty	2,084	34 Gewurztraminer	474	54 Aramon	75
15 Burger	2,060	35 Tinta Madeira	447	55 Muscat Hamburg	71
16 Mataro	1,855	36 Refosco	394	56 Beclan	54
17 Valdepenas	1,849	37 Muscat Blanc	352	57 Cataratto	52
18 Salvador	1,641	38 Perelli 101	322	58 Chasselas Doré	52
19 Chardonnay	1,630	39 Aleatico	295	59 Red Veltliner	51
20 Gamay	1,188	40 Grand Noir	283	60 Souzao	47

Bridging the gap: Important winemakers to know...who you may not...

- Richard Arrowood (Chateau Saint Jean)
- Brother Timothy (Christian Brothers)
- Tom Burgess (Burgess Cellars)
- Bernard Fetzer (Fetzer)
- Rick Forman (Sterling Vineyards)
- MaryAnn Graff (Simi)
- Richard Graff (Chalone)
- Dave Bennion (Ridge Vineyards)
- Zelma Long (Simi/Long Vineyards)
- Jerry Luper (Freemark Abbey)
- Justin Meyer (Silver Oak)
- Fred and Eleanor McCrae (Stony Hill)
- John Parducci (Parducci)
- Dick Peterson (Monterey Vineyard)
- Martin Ray (Martin Ray Winery)
- Richard Sanford (Sanford & Benedict, Sanford, Alma Rosa)
- August Sebastiani (Sebastiani)
- Lee Stewart (Souverain)
- Brad Webb (Hanzell)
- Bob Travers (Mayacamas)

Punctuation Pointers

1970's: Single vineyard/plot wines develop— led by the likes of Al Brounstein (Diamond Creek), 'Team' Acacia (Larry, Mike, and Jerry), Paul Draper (Ridge), Joseph Phelps, Steve Kistler, and more

1972: Domain Chandon kicks off the era of French Connection, followed by Roederer Estate, Domain Mumm, Domaine Carneros, Maison Deutz...

1978: Robert Parker launches the Wine Advocate and while he became famous after his bold calls about the 1982 Bordeaux vintage, he loved California wine and believed many producers with great terroir were not making wine at their full level of potential.

His call for harvesting phenolically ripe fruit, lower yields, more sorting and selection, cleaner facilities, and using more new, French oak barrels, coupled with producing more vineyard specific wines was heard by many winemakers

Punctuation Pointers

1980's: *Fighting varieties* (cork-topped 750-milliliter bottles, but priced lower) are born- led by such offering as Turning Leaf, Glen Ellen, Round Hill, Mondavi Woodbridge, Fetzer Sundial, Sutter Home (lots of White Zinfandel)

1980's: Smaller winery explosion– from Hirsch to Williams Selyem, Talley to Eberle, Dunn to Spottswoode...

1988: Meritage category formed and promoted seeing the interest in wines like Insignia, Opus One, etc..

1990s': The 'modern' swell grows for cult wines– Screaming Eagle (1992), Dalla Valle (1986), Colgin (1992), Sina Qua Non (1994), etc...

History of California Wine VII: Modern Love..

1980: Wine grapes are planted in more than half of California's 58 counties; today they are grown in 49 counties

1991: More than 50 American Viticultural Areas – distinct growing areas approved by the U.S. government – are established in California (as you know, today that # is 154 and counting..)

1997: The number of wineries in California grows to more than 1,000



History of California Wine VIII: Maturing...

California becomes famous for its commitment to environmental stewardship and its wine country hospitality.

2002: Wine Institute vintners and California growers introduce the Code of Sustainable Winegrowing, covering more than 200 best practices for the vineyard, winery and community.

2005: 21 million visitors each year are welcomed at many of the (then) 4100 wineries throughout the state



History of California Wine IX: Next chapter(s)

2008: U.S. wine exports, 90 percent from California, surpass \$1 billion

2010: The U.S. becomes the world's No. 1 wine consuming nation

2022: Capstone California is launched!

2023: The 1st Capstone Educators Tour happens... and Capstone's global impact grows..

2025: The 2nd Capstone Educators Tour is NOW... 😊 and Capstone's global impact grows.. Because of YOU!!



Wine 12 : Dutton Goldfield Devils Gulch Pinot Noir

Vintage and ABV: 2021/14.1%

Provenance: Marin County (multiple sites)

Assemblage: 100% Pinot Noir

Elevage: Aged 16 months in French oak (42% new barrels)

Why this wine: Rural Marin County, less than half an hour from San Francisco, is/was thought of as too cool, too windy, too foggy, too marginal for wine-but no more..

Located on a steep, convoluted hillside adjacent to the Point Reyes Peninsula in Western Marin County, Devil's Gulch is a pioneering planting.





A History of California Wine

thru the lens of 13 glasses....



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