



axr

To show distinction between the different AVA's within Napa Valley, axr napa valley is looking for differentiation: cool climate, warm climate, valley floor and hillside. There are 250 different soil variations in the world, 128 of them are present in Napa Valley. The Single Vineyard Series is built to show the diversity of terroir within our beautiful valley.

AxR1, the flagship Cabernet Sauvignon, is a true representation of the beauty of Napa Valley. The personality of this wine is the co-existence of power, ripeness and elegance picked from our very best barrels to express true thought and complexity of wine. We invite you to go on a journey through the past, present and future of Napa Valley with AxR1.

## 2021 vintage overview

When nature creates struggle it often brings great rewards. The 2021 vintage is a testament to this statement as it will produce wines with great intensity and longevity. The Napa Valley experienced a dry winter that continued into spring with some rain that allowed the vine to recharge its battery. We saw a number heat spikes in 2021 but thankfully due to relatively even temperatures in between these heat events, it helped the vines evenly ripen the fruit. The yields were modest (30% down) due to the dry winter and the vines adapted to this by producing only what they could ripen. The end result was a lower yielding vintage but with small and intensely flavored berries that produced incredibly dense wines with concentration and power.

## ritchie vineyard



### mineral

Kent Ritchie is one of North America's most admired winegrowers. He is a self-taught viticulturist who planted Ritchie Vineyard in the Russian River Valley AVA on AXR1 rootstock in 1972. The site is exposed to the cooling effects of coastal fog that burns off in the late morning and allows for a longer growing season, this results in Chardonnay grapes that have a more complex and nuanced flavor profile. The soil at Ritchie Vineyard is composed of Goldridge, a fine sandy loam that is known for its excellent drainage and nutrient retention. This, combined with the climate and topography of the area, contributes to the unique character and complexity of the Chardonnay grapes grown at the vineyard.

The vines are widely spaced at 968 vines per acre and are low yielding with an average of 2.5 tons per acre. The feature that stands out with Chardonnay at Ritchie Vineyard is superb intensity of fruit flavors in combination with scintillating tension and vibrancy. This is a Chardonnay that winemaker Jean Hoefliger makes in a Burgundian style which he typically enjoys himself. Ritchie Vineyard has become a benchmark for quality in the region and is highly respected by both winemakers and wine enthusiasts alike.

# sleeping lady vineyard



## elegance

Sleeping Lady Vineyard is owned by Giancarlo Bettinelli, the son of Napa Valley grape grower legend Larry Bettinelli. This west Yountville vineyard is named for the distinctive foothills behind the property, which look like a woman laying on her side. Larry Bettinelli invented and applied a new trellis system (Lyre System) that optimizes sun and air exposure for the clusters. The Bettinelli's are embracing new cutting edge technology which tracks photosynthesis activity, vine stress levels, and phenolic evolution throughout the year. Basically, they have the most advanced farming technology in the Valley.

The site itself has alluvial soil from the Mayacamas Bench and is planted in an east to west orientation with gentle slopes. Placed on the southern most tip of the Yountville Appellation, the climate is quite a bit cooler than St. Helena for instance, which yields wines that are elegant and feminine. This elegance when combined with the polymerization of Jean Hoefliger's winemaking style creates a wine which shows this magical elegance with an unbelievable mouthfeel and texture.



# beckstoffer to kalon vineyard



## structure

Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard has a rich history that dates back to the late 19th century. The vineyard was first planted in 1868 by Hamilton Walker Crabb, one of Napa Valley's first winemakers, who recognized the potential of the Oakville region for producing high-quality grapes. The vineyard was initially named "To Kalon," which in ancient Greek means "highest beauty" or "highest good" and it quickly gained a reputation for producing exceptional wines and today the 89 acres owned by Andy Beckstoffer is one of the most famous vineyards in the world. Beckstoffer To Kalon is located in western Oakville just south of famous Robert Mondavi Winery.

The soil at Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard is composed of a mix of alluvial and volcanic materials and even though it looks flat, it actually has an 18 feet slope. This type of soil and small difference in elevation allows for good water retention and drainage, adds minerals and nutrients to the soil, and has amazing depth which is the key to building the immense structure of the wines. The Mayacamas Mountains provide early shade in the afternoon which protects the long exposure in the hottest months of the summer. Because of all these special components in the vineyard, the characteristics of Beckstoffer To Kalon wine always has a taste which lingers on grainy tannins with an extremely structured and layered body.



# harbison vineyard



## complete

Oakville is home to some of the most prestigious wineries in Napa Valley, including Screaming Eagle, Opus One, Bacchus, Dalla Valle and Harlan Estate, among others. These wineries have gained international recognition for producing some of the most exceptional wines, which has contributed to Oakville's reputation as a premier wine region. Sitting in the 'Bermuda Triangle' of where these famous sites intersect is a small, family owned estate called Harbison Vineyard. Taking the best of iron-rich, red volcanic soil that Eastern Oakville is known for coupled with micro-farming to the extreme, you bring together a dream vineyard for winemaker, Jean Hoefliger to work with. It is the first time he tasted the grapes and could see the potential in the grapes themselves before ever making wine out of the site.

Pat and Joe Harbison purchased and developed Harbison Vineyard in 2005 and planted it in small blocks to facilitate micro-farming and enable its wines to express the Estate's varying soil types and selection of Cabernet Sauvignon clones. The Trail, located along the Silverado Trail near the front of the property and planted to clone 337, is more sloped and rocky which shows characteristics of deep, textural and dense Oakville expression. Pony Express is the northern-most block and named for the Pony Express stop once on the estate is divided between Clone 7 and 337, and is a much more elegant expression of Oakville with an amazing layered profile with a beautiful minerality. Last, Horseshoe, the western facing vineyard block and fondly nicknamed for the numerous horseshoes found during development, is planted to Clone 7 and shows a combination of the two different blocks with both texture and minerality.



## v madrone vineyard



### balance

AXR Napa Valley retained the Vineyard name V Madrone to honor and respect the rich history of the estate we acquired in 2017. By preserving the name V Madrone, we pay homage to the legacy and heritage associated with the vineyard recognizing the deep-rooted connection between the land, the vines, and the community that has been nurtured over time. The site, planted in 2002, has an incredible sense of place nestled against Mayacamas Mountain range at the base of Spring Mountain.

V Madrone Vineyard is characterized by its sloped, east-facing orientation, which allows for early shade, preserving the grapes' delicate flavors and maintaining optimal acidity. The gravelly soil composition adds depth and complexity to the wines, contributing to their exceptional tannin structure, captivating aromas, and vibrant acidity. The 3.5 planted acres of Cabernet Sauvignon has a wide variety of soil types from the riverbed and soils from the Mayacamas Mountains yielding an array of spice and fruit flavor profiles with beautiful acidity and balance. The presence of coastal redwoods on the property lends an enchanting quality to the wines, with an explosion of earthy notes that transport you to the estate's Fairy Circle. With each passing year, we deepen our understanding of our estate vineyard, constantly identifying ways to enhance and improve the quality of the wines, pushing us to make wines of extraordinary character and depth.

## artalade montagna vineyard



### depth

Artalade Montagna Vineyard, nestled within the Montagna Estate on Pritchard Hill, is a prestigious and captivating vineyard, sharing its esteemed neighborhood with renowned estates like Colgin, Chappellet, and Tusk. With its west-facing orientation towards the breathtaking Lake Hennessey, the vineyard basks in ample sunlight and enjoys a picturesque setting. The distinctiveness of Artalade lies in its volcanic and iron-rich soils, infused with a subtle touch of clay. This unique soil composition lends a pronounced character to the wines produced here. Situated in a geographically distinctive part of the hill, Artalade is perched at the edge of the majestic Vaca Mountain Range, boasting an altitude of 1,100 feet. The wines from Artalade Montagna Vineyard exemplify a harmonious blend of structure, force, and charm. The robust structure and volcanic soil provide a sturdy frame, while the wines' lushness and depth bring forth a captivating magic that leaves a lasting impression on the palate.

This is the last vintage of this wine. Part of the philosophy behind our single vineyard program is to find sites that have a uniqueness and produce wines that show the DNA of the place it comes from along with the challenges these sites bring. Therefore, we chose to take on a new challenge with Harbison Vineyard and move away from Artalade Montagna.



# denali vineyard



## velvet

Denali Vineyard is a 42-acre property with 14 acres of cabernet sauvignon vines, located in the hills of St. Helena, specifically above Joseph Phelps Vineyard. It features three different terrains with terraced hillside and described as gravelly and sandy loam soil. The west-facing orientation of the vineyard ensures that it receives sunlight exposure throughout the day. This exposure pushes the grapes to ripen resulting in rich flavors and concentrated sugars, contributing to the wine's structure, depth, and intensity. In terms of ripening, this vineyard tends to be the first single vineyard to be picked during harvest to ensure that we retain the acidity and tannin structure that Jean prides himself on. The wines produced from Denali Vineyard are known for their sexiness, fatness, and structure, with big fruit and a bold taste. The wines produced from this site are consistently lush and sexy, making them crowd-pleasers, often described as a velvet glove on an iron fist.

Walt and Katherine Schlotfeldt, the proud owners of the Denali Estate Ranch, have a fascinating history deeply intertwined with the vineyard and the land it encompasses. In 2005, captivated by the beauty and potential of the St. Helena hills, they acquired the Denali Estate Ranch, laying the foundation for their legacy. Over the years, Walt and Katherine diligently nurtured the vineyard, employing sustainable practices and meticulous vineyard management techniques to ensure the utmost quality of their grapes.





vibrant, deep, subtle

AXR Napa Valley's flagship wine, AxR1, is a testament to the winery's pursuit of excellence and its commitment to showcasing the finest expression of Cabernet Sauvignon in Napa Valley. As Jean Hoefliger declares, it is the single most powerful wine he has crafted in the past decade. AxR1 encapsulates the essence and soul of AXR, reflecting the unique vibe and character of the property. This exceptional wine is composed of 100% Cabernet Sauvignon, carefully blended from the best lots of each single vineyard, ensuring a harmonious and complete representation of the vintage. Jean's philosophy is to showcase the perfection of the vintage by meticulously selecting the finest lots from different vineyards, filling in any gaps to create a wine of unparalleled quality. AxR1 is not only a reflection of the vineyards but also an expression of Napa Valley itself, harnessing the DNA of the single vineyard sites that contribute to its creation. Prior to blending the single vineyards, AxR1 is carefully crafted, solidifying its status as the winery's image and a wine meant to be enjoyed by wine lovers worldwide.