

Society of Wine Educators

Virtual Conference

April 26, 2024

Elizabeth Kester
Winemaker, Director of Winemaking:
Wente Family Estates

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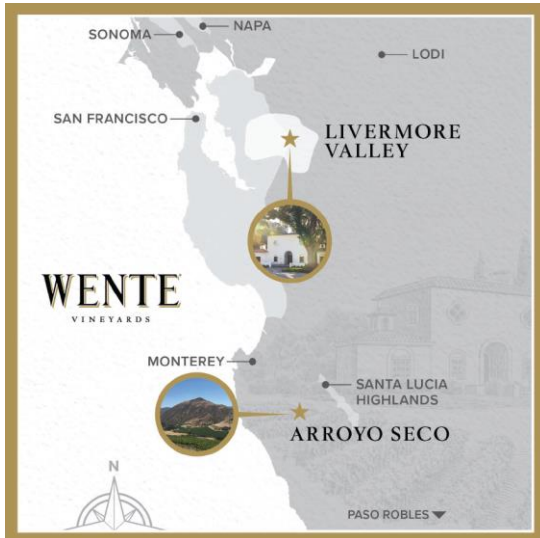
WENTE

VINEYARDS

5 Generations – Family Owned, Certified Sustainable,
3,000 acres Estate Grown

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LIVERMORE VALLEY, SAN FRANCISCO BAY AVA



Location: 30 miles east from the San Francisco Bay

Orientation: east to west- 15 miles long, 10 miles wide

Soil: Deep gravel soils

Climate: foggy mornings, warm middays, afternoon bay breezes, cool evenings

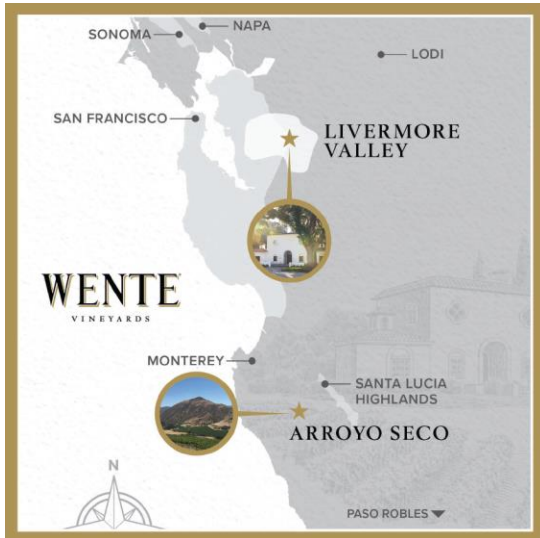


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ARROYO SECO, MONTEREY AVA



Location: 10 miles from the ocean & 40 miles from Monterey Bay, separated by the Santa Lucia Highlands

Orientation: north to south

Soil: Very rocky "Arroyo Seco potatoes"

Climate: foggy mornings through noon, moderately warm afternoon, cold evenings, strong wind patterns



WENTE VINEYARDS



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WENTE VINEYARDS SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

Wente Vineyards has been a leader in sustainable farming for five generations, since 1883

Wente Vineyards is a certified sustainable vineyard and winery from the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance (CSWA).

EXAMPLES OF OUR SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

- **No-Till System:** Sequesters carbon in the soil, which benefits the soil, vines, and atmosphere
- **Pest Management:** owl boxes for efficient gopher control, full-time Falconer during harvest season
- **Irrigation:** Sap-flow sensors that show how much water is needed by vine
- **Electric Tractors:** Monarch electric tractors
- **Water Waste:** Treated in a water reclamation pond
- **Cold Stabilization:** Utilize a STARS filtration unit to reduce the energy load
- **Lightweight Glass:** Reduces carbon emissions
- **Community donations:** Donated over a million dollars through Wente Foundation for Art Education



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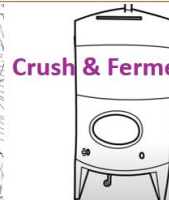
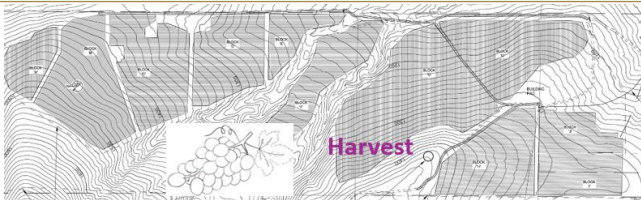


Winemaking Philosophies

- Maintain varietal typicity
- Honor the sense of place (terroir)
- Create wines of elegance and balance
- Make yummy wines!



Winemaking Process (Abbreviated): Blending Points



Crush & Fermentation



Drain & Press



Racking & Topping



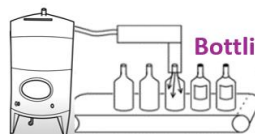
Pre-blending



Aging



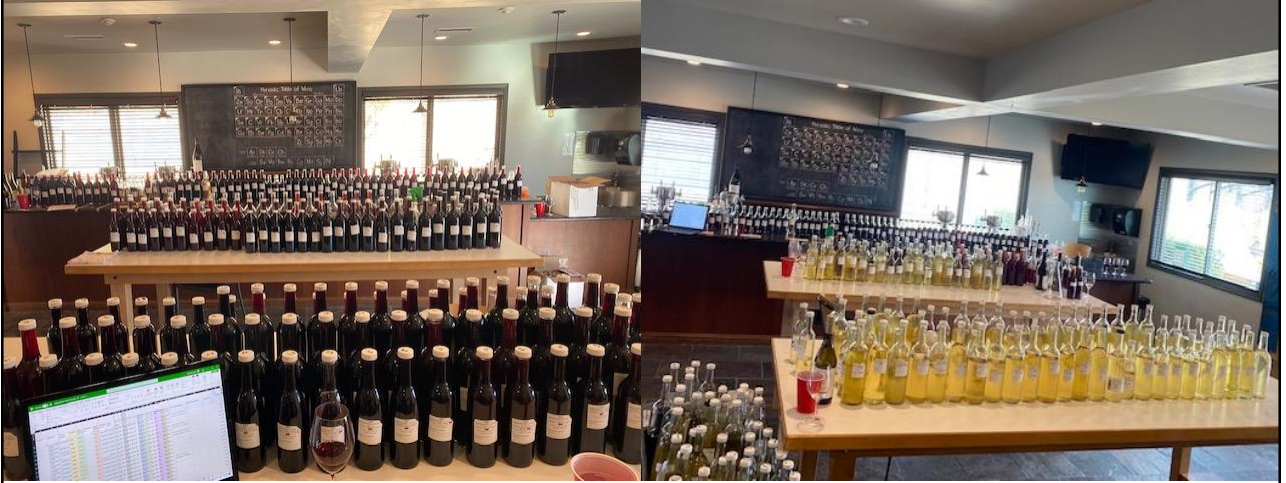
Final Blending



Bottling



Blending Days



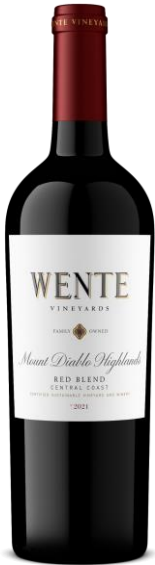
WENTE VINEYARDS



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2021 MOUNT DIABLO HIGHLANDS RED BLEND



Introducing the Mount Diablo Highlands Red Blend—the first addition to the Wente Vineyards core portfolio in a decade. This wine pays homage to the unparalleled winemaking expertise that has been the hallmark of our legacy for over 140 years. It is aptly named after the loftiest peak in our cherished wine-growing Central Coast region – Mount Diablo.

2021 BLEND COMPOSITION:

Cabernet Sauvignon - 22%, Petit Verdot 19%, Merlot 16%, Barbera 11%, Tempranillo 11%, Cabernet Franc 11%, and Malbec 9%

WINEMAKER NOTES:

- ABV 13.5%
- PH 3.7
- TA .59g/100ml



Mount Diablo

WENTE VINEYARDS



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2020 WETMORE VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON



THE VINEYARD

Our Wetmore Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon is named after one of the Livermore Valley's most prominent pioneers, California's first agricultural commissioner renowned for planting vine cuttings from many of Bordeaux's top Châteaux in the temperate Livermore Valley in the 1880s. The descendants of vines Wetmore brought from France thrive today in the gravelly loam soils of our certified sustainable estate vineyards between the Arroyo del Valle and the Arroyo Mocho, streams flowing from the southern hills of the Livermore Valley.

WINEMAKING NOTES

Aged for 18 months in 40% new and 60% second and third-use French oak barrels

92% Cabernet Sauvignon 4% Petite Sirah 2% Petit Verdot 2% Malbec

HIGHLY ACCLAIMED

93 the **tastingpanel**
MAGAZINE
POINTS v.2021

91 **JAMES SUCKLING.COM**
POINTS
MAY 2023
v.2021

90 Sunset Wine
Competition
POINTS
Gold
v.2021



WENTE VINEYARDS



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2022 LOUIS MEL SAUVIGNON BLANC



THE STORY

Louis Mel Sauvignon Blanc is named after a French emigrant, Louis Mel, who traveled to the western United States in the 1870's seeking a place to make wines to rival the great French Crus. He found the ideal home in the Livermore Valley. Acquiring Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon cuttings from the Marquis de Lur-Saluces, owner of the famed Château d'Yquem, he planted them in his vineyards.

The Wente family acquired the Louis Mel estate in the 1940's. This wine has notes of lemon and grapefruit with a bright, lingering acidity and rounded mouthfeel.

WINEMAKING

Cold fermented in stainless steel tanks to maintain natural fruit flavors

100% Sauvignon Blanc

HIGHLY ACCLAIMED

93 Sunset Wine
Competition
POINTS
Gold
v.2021



92 the **tastingpanel**
MAGAZINE
POINTS
v.2021

90 **Wine & Spirits**
POINTS
v.2021

90 **JAMES SUCKLING.COM**
POINTS
JULY 2023
v.2022

WENTE VINEYARDS



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	Total Anthocyanin	Bound Anthocyanin	Tannin	Bound / Tannin Ratio	Total IRPs
Wine 1	644	174	1215	0.14	2453
Wine 2	882	218	900	0.24	2051
Wine 3	1088	320	1609	0.20	3104

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2021 MERITAGE



THE VINEYARD

Our small lot wine is meticulously crafted from select blocks within our vineyards, cultivated with sustainable farming practices. Our Merlot grapes thrive in our Home Vineyards, while our Cabernet Sauvignon originates from our Sachau, Shannon, and Mel Vineyards. Each grape is carefully handpicked and sorted during harvest to guarantee the utmost quality.

2021 BLEND COMPOSITION:

57% Merlot

43% Cabernet Sauvignon

WINEMAKER NOTES:

All varieties were fermented in stainless steel tanks with pneumatage twice a day to maximize the extraction of aromas and textures.

The wine was aged for 20 months in 50% new French oak barrels and 50% used French oak barrels

- ABV 15%
- PH 3.74
- TA .61g/100ml



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