

# KARL WENTE

FIFTH GENERATION WINEGROWER & CHIEF  
WINEMAKER, COO OF WENTE VINEYARDS

## WHAT IS YOUR WINEMAKING PHILOSOPHY?

Our winemaking philosophy here at Wente Family Estates has three components: 1) Sense of place, 2) Varietally typical and 3) Elegant and balanced. These three pieces are critical as my team and I develop our wines vintage after vintage. We really strive to ensure our wonderful estate grown vineyards shine through.

## DO YOU HAVE A GO-TO WINE AND FOOD PAIRING?

My ideal pairing is our Louis Mel Sauvignon Blanc and a raw oyster on the half-shell. The bright acidity of our Sauvignon Blanc balances out the oceanic and rich taste of the oyster, which is just yummy.

## WHAT IS ONE OF THE HARDEST THINGS ABOUT WINEMAKING YEAR IN AND YEAR OUT?

The 'hardest' thing about winemaking each year is we inevitably harvest from about the end of August to mid-November. Our viticulture and winemaking teams are working 6 days a week, so it's physically the hardest. At the same time, it's the most exciting time of the year for all of us as we figuratively and literally get to see the 'fruits of our labor' come into tank.

## HOW INVOLVED DO YOU GET IN THE VINEYARDS?

The best part of my job is that my family has 3,000 acres of sustainably farmed vineyards. Since I started in 2002, I've remained heavily involved both in the vineyards and winemaking, but I have an awesome team inclusive of my cousin Niki, who's doing some amazing things in the vineyards and growing some of our best grapes yet.

## IF YOU COULD EAT ONE MEAL FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

A meal with great friends and great wine.

## WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE PLACE IN THE WORLD YOU'VE VISITED?

The end of the dock at Lake Tahoe.



"I love music, it makes me happy...I love my guitar and making music with my friends."

- Karl Wente, Wente Vineyards



PROUD MEMBER OF THE  
LIVERMORE VALLEY  
WINEGROWERS  
ASSOCIATION

# WENTE VINEYARDS

FAMILY OWNED. FIVE GENERATIONS.  
CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE.

Wente Vineyards is the country's oldest, continuously operated family-owned winery, founded in 1883.

Blending traditional and innovative winemaking practices, we draw from our estate vineyards in the Livermore Valley and Arroyo Seco, Monterey appellations to create an outstanding portfolio of fine wines. We are recognized as one of California's premier wine country destinations featuring wine tasting, dining, concert experiences, championship golf and more.

## HISTORY

Wente Vineyards was founded in 1883 when German immigrant Carl H. Wente purchased 48 acres of vineyard land in the Livermore Valley. Blending traditional and innovative winemaking practices, today's winery draws from 3,000 acres of sustainably farmed estate vineyards, located in Livermore Valley and Arroyo Seco appellations. Most notable within the historical Wente family history is the Chardonnay clone that was brought to California in 1912 from a vine nursery at Montpellier University in France. Planted in, what is now a heritage vineyard, along with cuttings from the historical Gier Vineyard in Pleasanton, CA, the Wente clone today comprises a majority of all Chardonnay plantings in California.

## WINES & VINES

Wente Vineyards draws from nearly 3,000 acres of Estate vineyards in the Livermore Valley, San Francisco Bay and Arroyo Seco, Monterey appellations to create an outstanding portfolio of fine wines. Their wine is distributed in all 50 states and in over 70 countries worldwide. In 2010, Wente Vineyards was among the first wineries to receive the Certified California Sustainable Winegrowing designation, and one of the only wineries to certify every aspect of its business. 2012 marked the 100th anniversary of the Wente family bringing Chardonnay cuttings to California.



WENTE<sup>®</sup>  
VINEYARDS

## TASTING ROOM

Wente Vineyards,  
Estate Tasting Room  
5565 Tesla Road  
Livermore, CA 94550  
Monday - Sunday  
11:00 am - 5:30 pm

Wente Vineyards,  
Vineyard Tasting Room  
5050 Arroyo Road  
Livermore, CA 94550  
Monday - Sunday  
11:00 am - 6:30 pm

(925) 456-2305  
[www.wentevineyards.com](http://www.wentevineyards.com)



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