

AARON LUNA

WINEMAKER AT FENESTRA WINERY

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE VARIETAL OF WINE?

It's hard to play favorites with varieties, they can all have their own wonderful attributes. I'm often influenced by many factors such as time of the year/day, what I'm eating, or where I'm at that would justify a favorite. It could often be a blend of varieties and not a varietal at all. Currently, I'd say that Sauvignon Blanc is my favorite because of the active fermentations in the background that are giving off wonderful tropical aromas as a write.

ANY WINEMAKING TIPS FOR SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT IN THE INDUSTRY?

One of the most important tips would be to work for multiple wineries/winemakers to accumulate cultural and technical skills to build your own toolbox of knowledge which will help you find your own style.

HOW INVOLVED DO YOU GET IN THE VINEYARDS?

Involvement in the vineyard is key to get the quality that you desire. I'm always doing some sort of trial in our estate vineyards and I try to get my two cents in with vineyards we purchase grapes from. There is currently a lot of opportunity to replant some of the aging vineyards in the valley and I hope to be apart of some of those decisions.

WHAT ACTOR/ACTRESS WOULD PLAY YOU IN A MOVIE ABOUT YOUR LIFE?

I would have to say Russel Crowe. I was once mistaken for him by the woman sitting next to me on a flight to Australia. I led her on for awhile and told her how upset I was with my personal assistant for not booking me first class.

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

I've done a fair amount of travelling around the world and to some amazing places, but I would have to say that Pine Valley in the Ventana Wilderness is my favorite place in the world. It is in between Carmel Valley and Big Sur and can only be accessed via hiking trails. I have some native American roots/ancestry in the area and I always have an amazingly grounding experience when I backpack there. This is the place that I'd want my ashes spread.

WHAT BRINGS YOU THE GREATEST JOY?

Sharing a gorgeous sunset with friends and family along with good food and wine.



"My favorite part of Livermore Valley would have to be the tight knit community in both the local wine industry and the consumers.."

- Aaron Luna, Fenestra Winery



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FENESTRA WINERY

THE WINDOW TO WORLD-CLASS WINES SINCE 1976

Fenestra offers a friendly, warm welcome to everyone. Taste the many superb award-winning wines of owner Lanny Replogle and winemaker Aaron Luna. The beautiful picnic grounds are bordered by a creek, with the vineyards in view. Discover why so many have adopted this charming winery as their favorite.

HISTORY

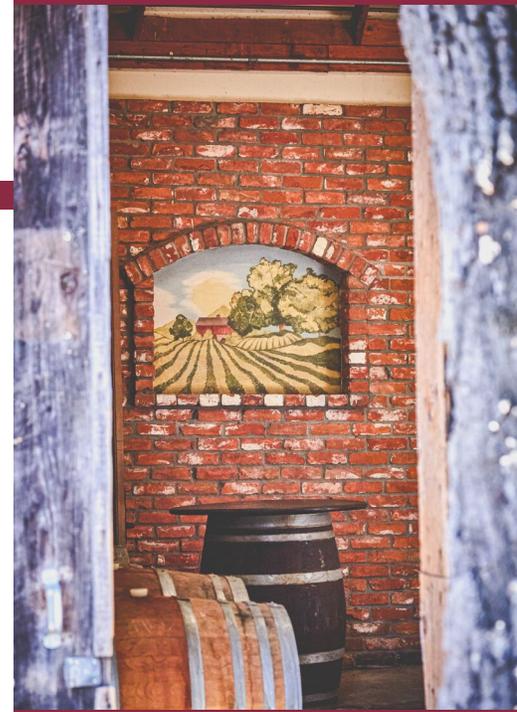
Located in a beautiful secluded setting surrounded by lawns, vineyards and trees, Fenestra is an historic winery built in 1889. Fenestra Winery is Livermore Valley's first family owned boutique winery, specializing in classically balanced, award winning wines from primarily Livermore Valley grapes. Our winery offers an easy escape from the everyday hustle and bustle of the Bay Area, we invite you to open the window to world class wines.

Fenestra Winery was established by the Replogle family on the historic Ruby Hill property in Pleasanton in 1976 and in 1980 occupied the century-old George True Winery building on Vallecitos Road in Livermore. The old building had been badly neglected, and the Replogles hauled away tons of trash, and installed a new roof and strengthened the building. The winery building was refurbished in 1997 and vineyards have been planted around the winery. The winery specializes in classically balanced, award-winning wines from primarily Livermore Valley grapes. Livermore Valley's first boutique winery, Fenestra Winery has celebrated many years of fine wines.

TRUE PROPERTY

Seven years after the winery was built George True succumbed to illness and died at the age of 50. Christina True took over the ranch which included a dairy, cattle, horses, hogs, chickens, rotating crops of barley, wheat, oats, plus the vineyards and winery. Christina was noted as one of the most progressive ranchers in Alameda County and was very prosperous. The acreage owned at this time had grown to 1150 acres. With the onset of prohibition in 1920 the winery was shuttered and the wines were left in situ. In 1923 Christina died at the age of 67.

George and Christina never had children and the ranch was left to Christina's nephew, Henry Grabau. Upon the repeal of prohibition, Henry started the winery back up and called it the "Golden Rule Winery" and sold all the wines which had been left in the winery since prohibition. Once the old wines were sold the winery and property then changed hands and the winery became "Pacific Coast Brands" until 1960. The property was sold to the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Oakland in 1965. The winery was abandoned until 1980 when the Replogle family started the winery back up as "Fenestra Winery".



TASTING ROOM

83 Vallecitos Rd
Livermore, CA
925-447-5246

www.fenestrawinery.com
info@fenestrawinery.com

Tasting Room Hours

Friday - Sundays
12:00p - 5:00p



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