

# LARRY DINO

WINEMAKER + OWNER AT CUDA RIDGE WINERY

## WHAT IS YOUR WINEMAKING PHILOSOPHY?

I prefer wines with balance and complexity. Not only balance in acid, alcohol, tannins; but I like balance in the flavor profile. While I like fruit in my wines, I don't want the fruit to overwhelm my palate. Also, my preference is for wines with oak balance, I don't like when oak is the first thing that I smell or taste.

## WHICH OF YOUR WINES REPRESENTS YOUR VISION THE BEST?

Cabernet Franc! The Cuda Ridge Cabernet Franc tends to have well balanced red fruit integrated with the varietal characteristics including white pepper, carmel, and olive. It is a soft elegant style Franc with soft tannins that is a great food pairing wine, or, can be enjoyed alone!

## WHAT ARE SOME OF THE MISCONCEPTIONS/PHRASES YOU HEAR FROM PEOPLE REGARDING WINE THAT ARE SIMPLY NOT TRUE (OR DRIVE YOU CRAZY)?

When people say that they don't like Merlot it drives me crazy. I have had many people tell me that they like Bordeaux wines, but they don't like Merlot! When I feel in a cynical mood, I will remind them that over half the wines in Bordeaux are Merlot based blends. Livermore Valley Merlot does phenomenal, and if the winemaker puts the effort into Merlot, it can be one of the best wines on any tasting flight!

## WHO WOULD YOU WANT TO SHARE A BOTTLE OF WINE WITH, LIVING OR NOT? AND WHY?

Neil Young – as all my friends know, I am a big Neil Young fan. It would be awesome to have a glass of Cuda Ridge wine with Neil and reminisce about his music career. BTW, it's not a coincidence that our son's name is Neil Dino!

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

Belize – Margie and I spent 3 days in the rainforest, and seven days on San Pedro island. We have so many memories and great stories from this trip.

## WHAT WOULD A WORLD POPULATED BY CLONES OF YOU BE LIKE?

A world populated by clones like me would be pretty boring. Everyone would be working all the time and have an intense drive to make everything perfect (which is not possible). The world would be productive, but probably not too social. There would be some adventurous travel to break the monotony.



"Livermore Merlot does phenomenal, and if the winemaker puts the effort into Merlot, it can be one of the best wines on any tasting flight!"

- Larry Dino, Cuda Ridge Wines



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LIVERMORE VALLEY  
WINEGROWERS  
ASSOCIATION

# CUDA RIDGE WINES

HANDCRAFTED, SMALL LOT, BORDEAUX STYLE WINES

Cuda Ridge Wines is a producer of Bordeaux style wines from the premier vineyards of Livermore Valley. We are dedicated to providing handcrafted, limited production wines with unique character. Our award-winning wines bring out the terroir of Livermore Valley. Come on out and enjoy the hospitality of the Cuda Ridge family for a truly enjoyable wine experience.

## ABOUT

Founded by Larry & Margie Dino, Cuda Ridge Wines produces Bordeaux style wines that bring out the wonderful terroir of Livermore Valley.

The Cuda Ridge winery and Tasting Room is located at 2400 Arroyo Road in Livermore, California. Cuda Ridge current production is 2100 cases, we expect that to continue to increase by a few hundred cases per year, in the foreseeable future.

Cuda Ridge Wines produces the following Bordeaux varietals: Semillion, Sauvignon Blanc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Malbec, and Petit Verdot. From time to time, winemaker, Larry Dino, will produce non-Bordeaux style wine which are designated under the Black label, these wines include Sangiovese, New-World style Cabernet Sauvignon and our S&M blend. Each of varietals produced are small lots ranging from 100 – 450 cases.

Cuda Ridge does extensive blending of the varietals and strives for lower alcohol wines with intense complexity and character, traditional of the Bordeaux style.

Cuda Ridge is a truly family and friends run winery. When you visit our winery, don't be surprised to see members of the Dino family and their friends helping with the wine making, or pouring a glass of wine. We are sure that once you have sampled our distinctive blends and enjoyed our hospitality, you will become a part of our new family!

We look forward to having you visit and taste wine with us!

- Larry & Margie Dino



## TASTING ROOM

2400 Arroyo Road  
Livermore, CA  
510-304-0914

[www.cudaridgewines.com](http://www.cudaridgewines.com)  
[info@cudaridgewines.com](mailto:info@cudaridgewines.com)

### Tasting Room Hours

Friday - Sunday  
12:00p - 4:30p



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