

VOICES OF THE FUTURE OF CALIFORNIA WINE

As California marks 175 years of statehood, rising wine leaders share their vision for a future rooted in heritage, driven by innovation and sustained for generations to come.

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I grew up watching my family working with other multigenerational winegrowing families. Reading about California's wine history is amazing and inspiring, but I'm certain the next century of California wine will be even more fascinating than the last.

Alan Ramey, co-president, Ramey Wine Cellars

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As California celebrates 175 years of statehood, our wine industry stands at a pivotal moment. The future will be shaped by bold innovation, integrating technology and culture in both the vineyard and the cellar while staying true to the heritage that defines California wine. At the heart of that is our people, empowered to think creatively, evolve and lead. We continue to invest in the education and training of our employees and their families, pairing strategic vision with efficiency, quality and community, ensuring California wine remains vibrant for generations to come.

Matt Locklin, associate vice president of operations, winemaking JUSTIN Vineyards & Winery

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For 175 years, California wines have enhanced the moments that matter in life — rooted in a deep sense of place and crafted with care. As we build on this legacy, we are proud to stand alongside the winemakers and stewards shaping the future where sustainability, innovation and connection remain at the heart of California wine for generations to come.

Catherine Sullivan, interim general counsel, The Duckhorn Portfolio

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Regenerative farming and sustainable winemaking are foundational to our contribution to the California wine industry. The future depends on making great wine more responsible and more accessible to everyone.

Breck O'Neill, executive vice president, business development, O'Neill Vintners & Distillers

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For over 60 years, my family has carried on the agricultural legacy of this 180-year-old estate — now in its third generation. At Alexander Valley Vineyards, we're rooted in history but always looking forward, farming not just for wine, but for community. That's why we've expanded into fresh produce with five acres of gardens that now supply local families, restaurants and visitors through our newest venture, Alexander Valley Farms. As we like to say: 'May it go on forever.'

Harry H. Wetzel, IV, head of operations/family partner, Alexander Valley Vineyards