

VIVIER WINES

Sonoma, California



Products

Chardonnay Sonoma Coast

Gap's Crown Vineyard Pinot Noir

Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast

Van Der Kamp Vineyard Pinot Noir

To Stéphane, the best winemaker is one that largely keeps his hands to himself, allowing the alchemy of nature to do what it does best. As he says, "Being a lazy winemaker is all about being patient, letting the place talk, and being gentle with the grapes. Making it simple." He learned this laissez-faire method of winemaking while growing up in Meloisey, Burgundy, at the feet of an elderly neighbor whose family had been making wine for centuries. After obtaining degrees in viticulture and enology from Université de Bourgogne in Dijon, he worked in Switzerland, Sonoma and New Zealand. There, he discovered the difference between Old World and New World winemaking. The vineyards were young, as were the winemakers, giving free reign for them to put their own stamp on the wines they crafted. In Napa, Stéphane became the winemaker at HdV (Hyde de Villaine) in 2002, under the tutelage of a great Burgundian winemaker. In some senses, he had come full circle. In other ways, he was just getting started. Because that's where he met Dana. Dana Sexton Vivier became swept up in the enthusiasm for wine in eastern Washington's emerging wine country while attending college in Walla Walla. A year studying at La Sorbonne in Paris gave her a far more discerning palate, fluency in French and a deep appreciation for nice, long meals. After post graduate study at UC Davis in Finance and International Management, Dana combined her interests and landed a job working for an investment management company that specialized in high-end vineyards, which moved her to Napa. Shortly thereafter, she met Stéphane, a wine lover who hailed from the Burgundy region of France. It wasn't long before the two realized that they belonged together, as both partners in life as well as in the establishment of their winery, Vivier Wines.

Owner : Stéphane Vivier and Dana Sexton Vivier

Winemaker : Stéphane Vivier

Varietals planted :
Chardonnay and Pinot Noir

www.vivierwines.com

