

Palmeri

Crafting Revolutionary Mountain Wines

A lifetime passion for spectacular terroir



"I want lots of flavor & extraction ... I want the wines to be power packed, but they also have to have some sense of elegance and some sense of 'yummy.'"



KERRY DAMSKEY is a renowned international consulting winemaker who has spent his career immersed in unique, exotic and coveted terroir worldwide. Kerry and his wife Daisy created Palmeri to showcase small-lot wines from truly impressive New World mountain vineyards. Joined by their son Drew, they pick when the fruit is at its peak of flavor and craft the yields from these special sites into spectacular wines.



Palmeri: All about mountain fruit

This is an important distinction that should not be overlooked. Palmeri defines 'mountain fruit' as vineyards resting above 1,000 feet. These sites are renowned for their more balanced growing season. In hotter years, the grapes enjoy a more temperate climate due to the elevation, whereas in colder years, the temperature is warmer atop the mountains, well-protected from the frost found on the valley floor. The well-draining soils yield grapes that are generally more flavorful, show more complexity, and produce more age-worthy wines.

VAN NESS VINEYARD

Van Ness Vineyard sits at just about 1,000 feet on the eastern slope of the Alexander Valley. The soil is fractured rock and shale, which limits the vines ability to throw a large crop. The vineyards small berries generate extracted dark fruit characteristics and rich savory aromatics like thyme and high country sage. We were lucky to partner with Denny and Kate Van Ness and their 3.2 acre vineyard where we craft single vineyard Syrah.



SWEETWATER SADDLE VINEYARD

Sweetwater Saddle Vineyard rests atop a lonely peak at 1,700 feet, just 15 miles away from the Pacific Ocean above the Dry Creek Valley. The Cabernet Sauvignon is rooted in layers of ancient marine sea floor, pushed upwards in the creation of the Coastal Range some 30 million years ago. This stunning site shows notes of cassis, Bing cherry, cigar box and black licorice. Julie Simpson developed this amazing vineyard with her late husband Stan in 1997. Today, she remains true to their shared vision of growing iconic mountain Cabernet Sauvignon.

