



Wattle Creek Winery

Australian Essence, California Style



WATTLE CREEK WINERY

Elevation:

1,100-1,400 feet

Highway 128 Mile Marker

43.3

Established

1994

Products

Sauvignon Blanc
Chardonnay
Shiraz
Petit Verdot
Petite Sirah

Production

18,000 Cases

Tasting Room Address

Ghirardelli Square
900 North Point Street
San Francisco California 94109

Phone

707 894 5166

Website

www.wattlecreek.com

Contact

Kristine Williams

In March of 1994, Christopher and Kristine Williams began a journey that would take them from being avid wine lovers and collectors to passionate winery owners. They purchased a 56-acre vineyard and winery property just south of the town of Cloverdale in northern Sonoma County. The home and winery on the property, formerly owned by Emmy-winning comedian Pat Paulsen, have been under renovation since the date of purchase.

With their roots firmly planted in their Australian homeland, the Williams wanted to specialize in Australian grape varieties, and sought a region with a climate similar to the warm Barossa Valley in southern Australia. Wattle Creek's location in northern Alexander Valley provided them with exactly what they were seeking.

The winery's name is derived from Australia's wattle tree, a member of the Acacia family with distinctive yellow blossoms. Images of these blossoms can be seen on Wattle Creek's labels, and the trees add color to the winery property.

Prior to fully embarking on this venture, their countless wine industry contacts led the Williams to Phil Freese, a highly regarded winery consultant with worldwide experience. Phil, along with vineyard managers Ulises Valdez and Jack Florence Jr., has played a key role in the vineyard development for Wattle Creek.

In addition to the 56 acres located on the winery estate, a 600-acre property was purchased in the Yorkville Highlands AVA, located on the Sonoma/Mendocino County line. Freese and his team have overseen the planting of 125 acres to date. The vines began producing full yields during the 2003 harvest.

Adding to the excitement for Wattle Creek's future was the hiring of enthusiastic winemaker Matt Michael in August 2009 to oversee the winemaking and vineyard program. He recognized in Wattle Creek the intersection of fantastic vineyards and the opportunity to create a production facility true to his vision.

With unbridled enthusiasm, top vineyard and winemaking expertise and outstanding vineyard locations, the Williams family is poised to make Wattle Creek a success. The winery currently produces Shiraz, Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon, Viognier and Sauvignon Blanc in small quantities, all with an emphasis on outstanding fruit character and full expression of the estate vineyards from which they are produced.



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www.yorkvillehighlands.org