

Historical Timeline

- 1979 Bob & Patty Brower venture out to the west coast to look at the Monterey Wine region
- MARCH 1981 8 acres purchased on Carmel Valley Road from Zobel's Nursery and Christmas Farm
- JUNE 1982 Wine filtering and storage tanks were brought in by rail car on the old County railroad to establish Chateau Julien Wine Estate as an official bonded winery, #5101 since Prohibition and #400 in the State of California
- JANUARY 1983 Official ground breaking
- 1984 First wine bottled and released- 1982 Merlot and 1982 Chardonnay- with 1200 cases produced
Rookie of the Year awarded for Chateau Julien wines, first Gold medal received from the Los Angeles County Fair for the 1982 Merlot
Winemaker Bill Anderson joins the Chateau Julien family
Chateau Julien wines served at the White House
- JUNE 1984 Winery's tasting room officially open to the public. Tours offered to private groups, family and friends. First of ten wineries open to the public in Monterey County for wine tasting and tours
Cal-Ital label introduced; Cabernet Sauvignon joins Merlot and Chardonnay with winery's original "Private Reserve" label
- 1985 First Hospitality Award received- Monterey Chamber of Commerce
- 1988 Barrel Selected label introduced; Private Reserve remains the original label of the winery; National distribution extended to 25 states
- 1989 Marta Kraftzeck joins the winemaking team with background in viticulture and winemaking
- 1994 First international distribution of Chateau Julien wines to Germany, Switzerland and Italy
- 1995 Conservatory addition off of Great Hall
- 1996 Expansion of the Chateau grounds and vineyards, including Courtyard gardens, parking and addition of the Chai barrel room. Signifies the transition to Chateau Julien Wine Estate
240 acres of vineyards planted in Monterey County's Lockwood Valley and declared the winery's "Estate Vineyard". Vineyard established as the source for most of the winery's production
- 1998 Chai is complete. Over 1200 60-gallon oak barrels stored with aging wine. Gives the Winemakers the capacity to directly oversee quality of all wines, extend aging and barrel ferment 100% of the Chardonnay; 5 acres of Sangiovese grapes planted at the Wine Estate in Carmel Valley
- 1999 Chateau Julien Merlot recognized by Wine & Spirits Magazine as one of nation's "Most Popular Merlots"
- 2000 Estate Vineyard label introduced. First release 1998 Merlot, 1998 Cabernet Sauvignon, and 1999 Chardonnay
Petite Chateau completed as the Brower's private "on Estate" residence
- 2001 Over 40,000 guests visit the Wine Estate throughout the year
- 2002 Expanded emphasis on quality in the vineyard with reduced yields and new growing techniques – ultimately resulting in lower case production and superior quality wines
- 2003 Zinfandel designated "Private Reserve"
- 2005 Chateau Julien Wine Estate presented Hospitality Business of the Year, Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce
Wine Estate again honored as Business of the Year, Carmel Chamber of Commerce
Syrah designated "Private Reserve"
- 2006 Chateau Julien wines served at Vice President's private birthday dinner
Chateau Julien Wine Estate is one of over 65 wineries and 22 tasting rooms in Monterey County, and continues to be one of only 2 wineries offering daily tours of a full operating winery
- MARCH 2007 Chateau Julien Wine Estate celebrates 25 years, and releases first proprietary blend "Bravura" in commemoration of the historical date

Highlights

DAILY WINE TASTING & TOURS

The 16-acre Wine Estate in Carmel Valley is open daily, offering guests the ability to taste a selection of wines available primarily at the Estate. Guests are welcome to picnic on the Garden Cobblestone Courtyard or covered glass Conservatory. Open Daily: Monday- Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm, Saturday- Sunday from 11:00am to 5:00pm. Daily complimentary tours of the full operating winery are offered by reservation: Monday- Friday at 10:30am and 2:30pm, Saturday- Sunday at 12:30pm and 2:30pm.

LOCALLY GROWN, FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

The Wine Estate was built in 1982 and continues to be family owned and operated by proprietors Bob and Patty Brower. All Chateau Julien wines are produced from 100% grapes grown in local Monterey County, from the winery's Estate Vineyard in Lockwood Valley.

VETERAN WINEMAKING TEAM

Winemakers Bill Anderson and Marta Kraftzcek have been producing wine together at Chateau Julien since 1989. Bill joined the Browsers when the winery first opened in 1982 with the premier release of Chateau Julien Merlot.

HOSPITALITY EVENTS

The Wine Estate features nine different events throughout the year for general consumers and club members. New release festivities, educational seminars and elegant winemaker dinners offer guests the ability to meet, mingle and taste with the owners and winemakers.

WINE CLUBS

Customers can explore their passion for wine with two distinct wine clubs. Club Chateau invites guests to learn more about Chateau Julien wines through the Wine Estate's quarterly Julien Journal newsletter and direct club member specials. The Wine Collector Program features bi-monthly shipments of new release, pre-release and limited production wines produced solely for Wine Collector members.

GROUP TOURS

Individual groups can customize their visit to the Wine Estate with a reserved Private Group Tour. Groups are guided throughout the Estate to learn about wine production, vineyards, the local wine industry and Chateau Julien wines. A selection of limited production Chateau Julien wines are poured throughout the tour.

CORPORATE & PRIVATE EVENTS

The Wine Estate is available for private corporate events, weddings and seminars. Multiple venues within the Estate grounds offer the ability to create unique ambiance and settings specific to each event. Venues include the Chateau, Conservatory, Garden Cobblestone Courtyard and Chai.

CORPORATE PROGRAMS

Our corporate team focuses on unique gift items such as customized private labels, etched bottles and logo branded wood boxes to meet the needs of corporate clients. Shipping, gift wrapping and custom packaging is all managed through the Wine Estate.

A 25-year Tradition: Evolving into the Next Quarter Century

WINE & PROPRIETARY BLENDS

"With our vineyard property, we now have several varietals available to blend and create wines for optimum flavor, layers of texture and complexity. We have the flexibility to enhance our existing varietal specific wines, with a continued focus on the winery's flagship varietal Merlot. Specific vineyard lots have also been selected to produce additional proprietary blends, as signified by our premier 25th anniversary release 'Bravura'."

Bob Brower, Proprietor

VINEYARD FOCUS

"We are continually exploring new techniques in the vineyard to adapt to the area's microclimate. We are working to refine the vineyard's irrigation management and to adjust our pruning to effect canopy development and the crop load of the vine. We strive to increase the quality of the fruit with each harvest, allowing the vines to express their inherent varietal characteristics for this terroir."

Marta Kraftzeck, Viticulturist and Winemaker

TECHNOLOGY ADVANCEMENTS

"With the past few vintages of Chateau Julien wines, we have looked towards science more extensively to complement the art of winemaking. Advanced research in phenolic profiling, using high performance liquid chromatography, allows us to understand and perfect the role of components such as tannins, anthocyanins, and catechins in the production of consistently great wines."

Bill Anderson, Winemaker & V.P. Operations

A WINE COUNTRY DESTINATION

"Hospitality has been the highlight of our guest services for the past 25 years. Our goal—to exude a warm, inviting atmosphere to each and every guest that enters the Wine Estate, whether on tour, wine tasting, picnicking or attending a private event—will again be the focus at the Estate over the next quarter century. We truly are 'a destination beyond wine'."

Patty Brower, Proprietor