

## MATTHIASSEN FAMILY VINEYARD

MATTHIASSEN is a family endeavor, the effort of Steve and Jill Klein Matthiassen, and their two young sons. Steve & Jill both have had life-long careers in sustainable agriculture, and they apply those ideals of balance, restraint, and respect for the individual—and for the whole—to their wine. Their production is simple but careful. This concept is central to the tradition of viticulture and winemaking. Respect for this tradition forms the core of their work. To that end, their hands literally touch every vine and every bottle.



As a vineyard consultant Steve teaches and makes decisions, such as when to water and how to prune, on vineyards throughout Napa and Sonoma. Steve's current clients include Araujo Estate, Spottswoode, Chappellet, Robert Sinskey Vineyards, Stag's Leap Wine Cellars, Long Meadow Ranch, Trefethen, Limerick Lane, and others. On his own vineyards, however, Steve cares for the vines with his own hands, driving the tractor at night, and working with the crews on Sundays.

Matthiassen moved to Napa in 2002. In December 2006, they took their wine plans another step forward and bought a small parcel tucked behind a subdivision just west of the city of Napa. They began replanting the property's 3 1/2 acres of vineyard to an initial lot of Ribolla Gialla - traced back to Josko Gravner's vineyard in Friuli -- Merlot, Refosco, and Cabernet Sauvignon. In 2009 Matthiassen had the chance to plant a vineyard on the West slopes of the town of Sonoma. The Michael Mara vineyard is now one of the most sought after sights for Chardonnay in California. Steve also farms a few parcels in Napa for their signature blends.

The Matthiassen blends have revolutionized the idea of thinking outside the single varietal and sourcing grape varietals from their most appropriate locales up and down the Valley. Steve has also redefined the term "ripeness" in California in terms of picking wine grapes. Matthiassen currently picks 3-4 weeks before most of his neighbors. However, as each vintage moves on, there are more and more of farmers following the lead of Steve Matthiassen and following the trail that he is blazing through California.

## MATTHIASSEN ROSÉ



**Varietal/Blend:** 40% Grenache / 34% Syrah / 16%

Mouvèdre / 4% Counoise / 6% mixed lot

**Farming:** practicing organic (non-certified)

**Soil:** varied

**Yeast:** native

**Fermentation:** fruit is pressed whole-cluster / settled 24 hours / fermented in stainless steel

**Malolactic:** no malolactic fermentation

**Aging:** aged sur lees in stainless steel barrels

**Alcohol:** 11.5%

**Acidity:** TA 7.69 g/L // pH 3.37

**Fined:** none

**Filtered:** light

**Production #s:** 2,475 cases

**Country:** United States

**Region:** California

**Sub Region:** Sonoma

**Vineyard:** Windmill Vineyard, Hurley Vineyard, Gibson Ranch, and Ryan's Vineyard

"Our 2017 Rosé was made from a combination of Grenache, Syrah, Mouvèdre, and Counoise from the Windmill vineyard in the Dunnigan Hills, Syrah grapes from the Hurley Vineyard in Napa Valley, and Grenache grapes from the Gibson Ranch in the McDowell Valley of Mendocino. Its citrusy aromas and clean flavors will complement the wonderful spring foods that show up on the table as the weather thaws (salads, rabbit, frittatas, peas, favas, green garlic...). Perfect for springtime holiday meals, or enjoying on the porch all summer."

Winemaker's notes.