



*Producing award winning
wines from LedgeWood Creek
Winery & Vineyards*

WINEMAKING

Creating wines that are an expression of the vineyards is entrusted to Larry Langbehn. The fine-tuning of canopy management, irrigation and fertilizing schedules, and crop tonnage control, delivers fruit in optimum condition for making wine under his direction. Both reds and whites are hand harvested – the reds in the daytime, the whites at night. Harvesting at night is essential as cool conditions are the best way to limit oxidation. Over time, our pickers have come to appreciate night picking in these cooler conditions.

The winery is conveniently surrounded by the vineyards, so the time is very short between picking and processing the grapes in peak condition. The exact processing method depends on the grape variety and its projected use. All the white grapes are whole cluster pressed. Chardonnay is barrel fermented *sur lie* for several months. Other white wine grapes are fermented slowly in stainless steel tanks. For the Bordeaux varietals such as Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot, extended skin contact helps soften and resolve aggressive tannins. With Rhone varietals such as Syrah and Mourvedre, contact time is limited to avoid excessive tannin extractions. Each variety is optimally expressed by its own unique characteristics and we tailor our process methods to best accomplish this.

Larry Langbehn has complete authority over the barrel regime using a selection of new and seasoned barrels in a combination of French and American oak. The exact oak usage is determined after harvest when the quality of the wine from the specific vintage is fully known.

Currently, LedgeWood Creek is producing and bottling estate grown Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Roussanne, and Viognier in the whites; Merlot, Syrah and Grenache in the reds. Estate grown Mourvedre is blended with Grenache and Syrah into a delightful Rhone red currently marketed under the LedgeWood Creek GSM label. Our award winning Cabernet Sauvignon comes from nearby Napa Valley, just over the Napa Valley/Suisun Valley line three and a half miles north of the winery.

“When I started working with LedgeWood Creek in 2002, I discovered a ranch with the highest diversity of unusually excellent quality grapes that I’ve seen in the last 15 years. It has taken about two years to figure out how to optimize the technical methods of winemaking, and how to blend these grapes to obtain the very best expression of the vineyard site. The results have been stunning,” says Langbehn.



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