



PELLET      ESTATE



*Spring 2015 Letter*



PELLET ESTATE



## *We Exist To Make Great Wine*

Pellet Estate is a rare, authentically grown, and classically made wine. Nestled along the Western slopes of the Mayacamas, our estate vineyard is located in the small town of St. Helena with a rich history dating back to 1859. Henry Pellet, one of the founding pioneers of Napa Valley winemaking, first planted this site with a vision of producing wines that would be among the best in the world. For more than 150 years this vineyard has grown outstanding Cabernet Sauvignon. We honor that tradition with our flagship wine, Pellet Estate Cabernet Sauvignon, a blend of about 90% Cabernet Sauvignon with small amounts of Merlot and Petit Verdot.

Authentically grown - We work as one with nature. Our vineyard is sustainably farmed and we take great care in preserving the delicate eco-balance with healthy and responsible stewardship. Our rootstocks and vine selections are a combination of the most successful for this part of Napa Valley. Pruning, harvesting, leafing, thinning, and cluster management, are all done by hand. During harvest, we pick at first light, so that the grapes are perfectly stabilized from the cool night, and crushed immediately.

Classically made - Our winemaking philosophy honors traditional methods while leveraging modern technologies and state of the art practices that are available to us. Techniques like triple hand sorting the fruit, extended maceration, and slow fermentations gives our wine deep colors, beautiful aromas, and rich extractions of flavor. Aging 20 months in new French oak barrels produces a refined elixir - balanced, perfumed, and rich in color and flavor.

# Latest News

## **Winemaking**

Our winemaker Tom Rinaldi has been busy both in the vineyards and with regional events. The growing season was off to an early start this year, then began to slow down with cooler May temperatures providing very nice and even fruit set and development. We are also excited to announce that in 2015, all our winemaking will officially be moved underground into hillside caves at the winery providing natural year round climate control.

## **2015 bASH Event**

Pellet Estate earned second place for the third year in a row at the Culinary Institute of America for bASH 2015. Our “Surf & Turf” was King Crab leg wrapped in paper thin mango/passion fruit & Chardonnay gelée, plus a Gruyère Gougères filled with wild mushroom mousse topped with a slice of rare Wagyu steak, each respectively paired with our Chardonnay and Cabernet. [www.appellationsthelena.com](http://www.appellationsthelena.com)

## **Wind to Wine Event**

Join us for Wind to Wine in Petaluma on Saturday August 8th. We will be pouring our award winning Sunchase Vineyard Chardonnays with fellow vintners showcasing wines made from Petaluma Gap fruit. Soon to be a new AVA, the Petaluma Gap consistently yields some of the top cool-climate grapes in California. Come say hi to Tom! [www.petalumagap.com](http://www.petalumagap.com)

## **Tasting Lounge**

Get ready for Wine and Food pairings in our Vineyard Tasting Lounge – call us for details on these highly limited private appointments for groups of 4 or more. From local expert chefs, enjoy small-bite food pairings complementing 4 wines, and an Estate vineyard tour.

## **Harvest Party – Save the Date!**

On September 26th we will host our annual Harvest party in the vineyard. More details to follow in the coming months for those on our list. Email [eric@pelletestate.com](mailto:eric@pelletestate.com) for more information.



# Current Releases



## 2011 Cabernet Sauvignon

*Pellet Vineyard*

Rich in color and extract, with spicy notes of black pepper and light coffee, cassis and plum. It is bright, elegant and charming with concentration and balance. Blind tasted and voted among the top four Napa 2011 Cabernets over \$50 by our vintner peers. Drink thru 2026.

\$85



## 2013 Un-Oaked Chardonnay

*Sunchase Vineyard*

Crisp, smooth and mellow with accents of tangerine, melon, citrus peel, and bits of honeyed highlights. It possesses a balanced depth while retaining great style and finesse. Drink thru 2020.

92/ADB, 91/AG, 90/RP

\$36



## 2012 Henry's Reserve

*Pellet Vineyard*

This year's Reserve is 85% Petit Verdot, and displays supple tannins, excellent purity and mouth-feel, with flavors of tobacco and cassis, and finishes with outstanding depth and texture. Drink thru 2030.

\$115



## 2013 Chardonnay

*Sunchase Vineyard*

Light gold color, highlighted by notes of mango, white peaches, citrus, and melon. This has a perfect touch of light oak, and a denser mouth-feel than our Un-oaked. Drink thru 2025.

92/AG, 92/RP

\$68

*Acquire our wines at [pelletestate.com/join](http://pelletestate.com/join)*

PELLET  
ESTATE

*Rare, authentically grown, and classically made wines.*

1241 Adams Street, #1002, Saint Helena, CA 94574

707.363.3281

[PelletEstate.com](http://PelletEstate.com)

[Eric@PelletEstate.com](mailto:Eric@PelletEstate.com)

[FaceBook.com/pelletestate](https://www.facebook.com/pelletestate)