



TRUCHARD

WINE & SPIRITS' TOP 100 WINERIES OF 2013



Napa Valley

Sal De Ianni

Founded: 1974
Winemaker: Sal De Ianni
Viticultivist: Tony Truchard
Acres owned: 400; 280 planted
Annual production: 17,000 cases
Estate grown: 100%
Owners: Tony & Jo Ann Truchard
Known for: Farming the rolling hills of a diverse estate in southern Napa.
Location: Napa, CA
Website: truchardvineyards.com

Truchard

ARMY-TRAINED PHYSICIAN TONY TRUCHARD didn't know much about viticulture when he and his wife, Jo Ann, planted their first vineyard in 1974. They bought 20 acres in Carneros partly because it was cheaper than Oakville or Rutherford, and Frank Mahoney of Carneros Creek Winery told them that he'd buy whatever they planted. That turned out to be pinot noir and chardonnay; they also planted some cabernet sauvignon, hedging their bets with merlot and franc in case it didn't ripen in cool years. For the next decade, they commuted to the vineyard on weekends and camped out in a trailer—on weekdays, it was back to Reno, where Tony had a private medical practice. They began buying up contiguous land as it became available, and added up-valley clients like Frog's Leap, Cain, Nickel & Nickel and Robert Mondavi.



The trick to their success with both cabernet sauvignon and pinot noir is the diversity of climates and soils in rolling hills where the Carneros lowlands meet the rocky volcanic Mayacamas Range. They've learned to plant syrah and cabernet on the alluvial and volcanic south-facing hills, maximizing sun exposure and drainage. The pinot noir and chardonnay, on the other hand, sit on the heavier clay more common in Carneros.

In 1989, after seeing their grapes increasingly become vineyard designates at other wineries, they started an estate winery to showcase their own fruit. Starting in 1990, Michael Havens made the wine in a renovated barn on the property. Sal De Ianni, who had been at Cuvaision, was brought on as winemaker in 1998. He's maintained a steady hand in the cellar, translating the vineyard's cool climate into savory, balanced wines that are light on their feet.

De Ianni gets to take most of the vineyard's original 1974 plantings. A Martini selection planted in 1974 plays a supporting role in the estate pinot, helping form a classical Carneros pinot noir with bright cherry fruit and a pleasantly earthen grip. Truchard's 2009 cabernet, which also benefits from vines planted in 1974, has a spicy elegance that feels trim and complete—an age-worthy cabernet from an unlikely place. —L.S.

TOP-SCORING WINES

- 93 '10 Carneros Napa Valley Pinot Noir \$35 (6/13)
- 92 '09 Carneros Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon \$38 (2/13)
- 88 '09 Carneros Napa Valley Merlot \$30 (2/13)

Wine & Spirits 27th ANNUAL HALL OF FAME

Here are the superstar performers, the wineries whose collections of wines have earned the most **Winery of the Year** awards in the past 27 years.

14 Awards

Bouchard Père & Fils (2014)
 Louis Jadot (2013)

13 Awards

Iron Horse (2014)
 Qupé (2014)

12 Awards

Beringer (2014)
 M. Chapoutier (2007)
 De Loach (2013)
 Flowers (2013)
 L'École No 41 (2014)
 Joseph Phelps (2006)
 Williams-Selyem (2014)

11 Awards

Aveleda (2012)
 Banfi (2005)
 Gary Farrell (2008)
 Robert Mondavi (2014)
 Niepoort (2014)
 Louis Roederer (2014)
 C. von Schubert (2014)
 Von Strasser (2014)

10 Awards

Diamond Creek (2013)
 Henochke (2013)
 Kendall-Jackson (2012)
 Krug (2014)
 Santa Rita (2011)
 Storybook Mountain (2014)
 Andrew Will (2013)

9 Awards

Marquês de Cáceres (2008)
 Ceretto (2012)
 Veuve Clicquot (2011)
 Cune (2014)
 Geyser Peak (2007)
 E. Guigal (2014)
 Dr. Loosen (2014)
 Rosenblum (2006)
 Catena Zapata (2014)

8 Awards

Carmen (2008)
 J.M. da Fonseca (2010)
 Merryvale (2006)

7 Awards

Beaulieu (2010)
 Benziger (2013)
 d'Arenberg (2014)
 Joseph Drouhin (2011)
 Grigih Hills (2008)
 Kenwood (2014)
 King Estate (2013)
 Domaine Leflaive (2013)
 Masi (2008)
 Navarro (2005)
 Ravenswood (2014)
 Rochioli (2014)
 Roederer Estate (2013)
 Ruffino (2008)
Truchard (2014)
 Robert Weil (2014)
 Yalumba (2012)

6 Awards

Bründlmayer (2009)
 Caera (2014)
 Clos du Val (2011)
 Duckhorn (2011)
 Frog's Leap (2014)
 Schloss Gobelsberg (2014)
 Paul Jaboulet Aîné (2013)
 Leonetti (2012)
 Movia (2013)
 Quinta do Noval (2012)
 Patz & Hall (2008)
 Psey (2013)
 Pride (2006)
 Tahbik (2014)

Each winery appears with the number of Winery of the Year awards earned since the first Buying Guide in 1987. The date of the most recent award appears in parentheses. For a complete list of awards for each winery, visit wineandspiritsmagazine.com.

WINE & SPIRITS BUYING GUIDE 2014

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