

NICOLETTE CHRISTOPHER

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

PURE NAPA

CHRIS DEMETRE

WINEMAKER

Chris Demetre graduated with a degree in Geology and the next five years learning the ins and outs of production engineering at the field level. The times he spent wearing a hard hat and supervising big equipment on oil well workovers were some of the most interesting and exciting of his life. This is where he developed his science and production foundation.

After going to grad school for a business degree, he decided to try biotech manufacturing. During this period, he learned the ins and outs of biotech manufacturing that would later serve him so well. After a while it was time for a change.

Nicki was ready for a change too, and they decided to ride the circumference of France on their bicycles. It was then that they experienced the great wines of Europe. The Loire, Bordeaux, Alsace, Burgundy, the Rhone; They spent five months logging thousands of miles and visiting every major wine region in France as well as some in Germany. Yum.

Not all good things must end. Upon their return, they both entered the Winery Technology and Viticulture program at Napa Valley College and began to acquire the skills needed to enter the wine industry. These studies were supplemented with courses at U.C. Davis and experimental fermentations that are too numerous to mention.

Chris took a position at Cecchetti-Sebastiani and helped them set up a new winery, focusing on the laboratory and bottling line. He gained blending and tasting knowledge while assisting the winemaker as he searched for wines on the bulk market and cellar work as they got the fledgling winery off the ground.

Chris then became the winemaker for the Napa Sonoma Vineyard Group from the 2003 harvest through 2010. He did up to 3000 cases per year of Eric K James Chardonnay, Pinot and Syrah, as well as the Cook, Dworsky, and Fieldsa labels.

Today Chris and Nicki are working together on creating their dream; a classically styled, delicious Napa Cabernet Sauvignon.

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