

# TIMELINE

- 1968** Napa Agricultural Preserve established, protecting Napa Valley agriculture for future generations.
- 1968** Gene and Katie Trefethen purchase a run down old winery and a few contiguous farms in Napa, their purchase contingent on the passing of the Ag Preserve.
- 1968** Gene's history working with Kaiser influences our infrastructure planning. We begin installation of two reservoirs to provide a secure and sustainable water supply for the vineyard.
- 1972** John Trefethen takes over management of the estate from his father with Tony Baldini at his side.
- 1973** John and Janet meet, marry, begin to restore the Historic Winery, and craft the first commercial Trefethen wines: a Chardonnay and a Pinot Noir.
- 1973 - 1977** Nana meets Count Robert-Jean de Vogue at a cocktail party, which leads Moët Hennessy to start Domaine Chandon at Trefethen.
- 1974 - 1975** As the relationship continues, we work with Möet winemakers, and together we help develop the practice of night harvest.
- 1974** The first vintages of Trefethen Riesling and Cabernet Sauvignon.
- 1975** John Trefethen co-founds the Napa Valley Grapegrowers with Andy Beckstoffer and becomes its first president.
- 1975** John Trefethen hires David Whitehouse as Winemaker.
- 1976** Installation of a central drain at the winery and a settling pond next to one of the reservoirs allows Trefethen to recycle all winery wastewater.
- 1977** Trefethen enters its first export market, the UK, with a Harry Waugh selection for the Queen Elizabeth 2 ocean liner.
- 1977 - 1998** Trefethen hosts the Napa Valley Cooking Class in the Villetta. Visiting chefs include Dona Scala (of Don Giovannis), Wolfgang Puck, Barbara Tropp and Thomas Keller.
- 1978** Steve Baldini joins his father, Tony, in the vineyard.

- 1977, 78, 84** The first grapes, mostly Cabernet Sauvignon, are planted at Hillspring.
- 1979** The 1976 Trefethen Chardonnay is declared the “Best Chardonnay in the World” at the Gault-Millau Wine Olympics in Paris.
- 1980** Trefethen Chardonnay successfully defends its title at the rematch in Burgundy.
- 1980** Trefethen enters Japan with a listing at the Hotel Okura Tokyo.
- 1982** First vintage of Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon.
- 1983** Lorenzo Trefethen is born.
- 1983** Peter Luthi joins David Whitehouse in the cellar (David moves to “Winemaster”.)
- 1984** John Trefethen elected President of a fledgling Napa Valley Vintners and works to professionalize the organization.
- 1985** A new building for fermentation and bottling is built next to the historic winery.
- 1986** Hailey Trefethen is born.
- 1988** The Historic Winery is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- 1987 - 1997** Starting in 1987, we begin a near total replanting of our estate vineyards, due to *phylloxera*. Replanting lasts nearly a decade.
- 1992** Janet Trefethen cooks Christmas dinner for Julia Child on Good Morning America.
- 1993** Our first vintage of Trefethen Merlot.
- 1994** We launch our wine club, Club Trefethen.
- 1996** First vintage of Cabernet Franc.
- 1997** The first vintage of HāLo.
- 1998** First Vintage of our Rosé of Pinot Noir, SIN - Summer In Napa.
- 1999** The Trefethen Family Viticulture Center at Napa Valley College opens, reflecting the family’s commitment to supporting education.

- 2000** The Barrel Building is constructed next to the Fermentation Building and Historic Winery.
- 2001** Replanting of Hillspring begins, with HāLo in mind.
- 2004** After a decade of work by Janet Trefethen, the Oak Knoll District is recognized as Napa's 14th AVA.
- 2004** John Trefethen hires Jon Ruel as Viticulturist. Hailey, graduating high school, is his first intern.
- 2005** We have a vision for a reserve Chardonnay in the Trefethen style. We plant Katie's Acre for this wine and launch Harmony Chardonnay in 2008.
- 2005** First vintage of Quandary.
- 2006** Bryan Kays begins at Trefethen as an intern in the vineyard.
- 2006** Trefethen's vineyards are Certified Napa Green Land.
- 2006 - 2008** Michael Chiarello films *Easy Entertaining* at Trefethen.
- 2006** First vintage of OKD.
- 2006** Lorenzo Trefethen joins the company.
- 2007** The 2005 Trefethen Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon wins the title of "Best Red Bordeaux Varietal from North America" at Decanter Magazine's World Wine Awards in London.
- 2007** The first vintage of Dragon's Tooth.
- 2008** We formalize and expand La Huerta, providing fresh produce for employees.
- 2008** Trefethen enters the Chinese market.
- 2008** Jon Ruel becomes VP of Operations, and promotes Zeke Neeley to take over winemaking and hires Brendan Brambila (2009) as Viticulturist.
- 2008** Hailey Trefethen joins the company.
- 2008** First vintage of Malbec.

- 2009** We chair Auction Napa Valley (and hold up the wine train on horseback!)
- 2009** Trefethen becomes the 15th winery to be certified Napa Green Winery.
- 2012** Trefethen becomes one of the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance's first participants to be Certified Sustainable in both vineyards and winery.
- 2012** Trefethen wins the Botanical Research Institute of Texas' "International Award of Excellence in Sustainable Winegrowing".
- 2012** The completion of the final solar array on the Trefethen estate, offsetting 100% of Trefethen's electricity usage in the winery and vineyard.
- 2014 -17** HāLo is named "Red Wine of the Year" by Connoisseurs' Guide to California Wine 4 times in a row, the only wine to accomplish this.
- 2014** The 6.0 magnitude South Napa Quake inflicts severe damage upon the Historic Winery, leaving it leaning four feet to the west. Wine is made in hard hats and safety vests and then we open the tasting room in the "conservatory".
- 2014** Bryan Kays promoted to winemaker.
- 2015** Our first vintage of Sauvignon Blanc.
- 2015** Jon Ruel becomes our first non-family CEO.
- 2016** First vintage of The Cowgirl & The Pilot.
- 2017** We reopen the Historic Winery after a comprehensive 2 ½ year restoration and seismic retrofit, led by Hailey Trefethen.
- 2018** Trefethen celebrates 50 years of 100% estate winemaking in the Napa Valley!
- 2018** The 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon, with 95 points, is the only Napa Cabernet named in Wine Enthusiasts' "Top 100 Wines of 2018"!
- 2020** In the midst of a global pandemic and record-breaking wildfires, two Trefethen wines finish in the top 1% of wines tasted at the largest blind tasting in the world, the Decanter World Wine Awards. Winning Platinum and emerging as the best American white wine: the 2018 Trefethen Chardonnay. And receiving the award for "Best in Show" - an honor given to only 50 of the 16,518 wines tasted - the 2017 Trefethen Cabernet Sauvignon.