



## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our wineries are ending a successful harvest and crush season with much to be thankful for: a beautiful bounty of quality grapes here in Madera County! A lot is happening around the wineries that is worth sharing. We hope you enjoy the news and announcements below.

Be sure to scroll down for details about our next big event coming November 9-10.

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### NEWS from FICKLIN VINEYARDS:

#### **FICKLIN VINEYARDS INVITED TO U.S. EMBASSY IN LONDON**

Ficklin Vineyards, America's oldest Port winery established in 1946, recently received a request from the US Embassy in London for their award-winning Port to serve at upcoming Embassy dinners.



From Ficklin Vineyards remote location in Madera County, Winemaker and President, Peter Ficklin, was happy to hear his Ports are drawing interest from across the pond. "The UK has a long and valued history in the development and traditions of Port wine," said Peter Ficklin, Winemaker and President. "We consider this a special acknowledgement of our premium quality."

Ficklin Vineyards received the request from Gerry Kaufmann, of the Embassy's cultural division, expressing the desire of the US Embassy in London to serve Ficklin Port at their dinners. Then the hard work began to meet regulations to ship Ficklin Vineyards Old Vine Tinta and Aged 10 Years Tawny Port to the Embassy. In addition to the US Embassy, the process also involved the USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, the California Wine Institute, and the Culinary Diplomacy Project.

The Embassy's interest in obtaining Ficklin Port in the UK is not isolated. Ficklin will be meeting with UK distributors visiting the US through the California Wine Institute in October to discuss their interest in carrying the brand. "We're aware Ficklin Vineyards Ports are well known and it's exciting to see that awareness continue to grow," Peter continued. "We'll be meeting to determine whether it may be time to begin exporting."

Ficklin Vineyards sees guests in their Tasting Room on Avenue 7 and Road 30 in rural Madera County from all over the world. During September, they hosted tours for groups from Australia, Canada, Japan, China, and Portugal.

Guests to Ficklin Vineyards share photos from their travels where they run across Ficklin Vineyards Port, even though it is not currently distributed in those locations. Seems their Port is sometimes one of the special US gift items tucked into suitcases when travelers fly abroad. Peter laughs, "I hope to one day be as well-traveled as Ficklin Port."

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## NEWS from FASI ESTATE WINERY:

### "A VISIONARY SUCCESS:

How does a serious car accident turn into the American Dream and end in a beautiful winery? The answer is found in Ralph Fasi's ability to recognize opportunity"...



Sierra News Online tells the story of how Fasi Estate Winery was started. [Read more](#)

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Fäsi Estate Winery introduces their new winemaker, Ken Post! Ken began his career on his family's ranch in Paso Robles. There, his family farmed 1,800 acres of alfalfa and various grains until the ranch was sold in the late 70's. At that time, Ken pursued a second career in highway construction. Ken's firm contracted with the State of California and private organizations in providing highway paving, resurfacing, and oiling services. While this was a lucrative business, Ken wished to spend more time with his family and retired at the age of

40. It wasn't long before Ken craved more activity and decided to pursue his love of wine. After enrolling in Fresno State's Enology Viticulture program and earning his degree, Ken began his third and final career as a winemaker in the Central Valley. He has worked for the respected small winery Oak Hollow, along with Ramos Torres Winery and the CRU Wine Company.

Ken is excited for his new venture at Fäsi Estate Winery and plans to continue producing award winning wines from their Central Valley vineyards. Ken has always been passionate about wines from this region and he looks forward to a successful future with the Fäsi team.

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## NEWS from TOCA MADERA WINERY:

### NEW EVENTS & BOARD ROOM

Toca Madera Winery looks forward to opening their new Event/Board Room which is currently under construction. This addition will provide the opportunity for guests to host more indoor private tastings and events as well as exclusive meetings throughout the year.

### WINE CLUB FOR LOCALS

Toca Madera has partnered with Riverstone to create the **Rio de Vino Wine Club** - an exclusive membership for the Riverstone community. Wine Club members can enjoy their award-winning wines and winery located just down the road from Riverstone.

### A LEADING GRAPE

Because of its tolerance to warmer climates, Toca Madera aims to lead the movement in making Tempranillo the standout grape of this region. Tempranillo is used for their 2019 Mirame Rose, 2019 Estate Tempranillo, 2019 Estate Tempranillo (Reserve), and the 2019 Dulce Rojo.

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## UPCOMING ASSOCIATION EVENTS

**Holiday Spirit Weekend  
at participating wineries**



November 9 -10, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

[Click here for details & tickets](#)

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Madera Vintners Association | 800-613-0709 | [www.MaderaWineTrail.com](http://www.MaderaWineTrail.com)

