

# SNOWDEN

**S**nowden brothers Randy and Scott are the second generation of a family legacy. In 1955, their parents, Wayne and Virginia Snowden, purchased a ranch along a ridge in the eastern foothills of the Napa Valley. In addition to the stunning views of St. Helena, Rutherford and the San Francisco Bay, the property came with seven acres of grapes and six acres of prunes, walnuts, plums and peaches – the first vineyards had been planted on the property in 1879. In 1962, realizing the future of Napa was in wine rather than fruits and nuts, the Snowdens planted Cabernet Sauvignon with cuttings from Nathan Fay's vineyard in what is now the Stag's Leap District.

For the Snowden boys, "The Ranch," as they called the property, was their playground. Work in the vineyard, family picnics, the wildly rustic house, united them in the conviction that this was the *Snowden family's* place. The years passed, the replanted vineyards matured, and the woods became forests. Growing up, they worked "cellar rat" jobs at wineries with some of the pioneers of the wine industry in Napa Valley – John Daniels at Inglenook, Joe Heitz at Heitz Cellars, Andre Tchelistcheff at Beaulieu, Robert Mondavi at Robert Mondavi.

Careers as winemakers turned out not to be the plan. Scott and Randy both took "day jobs". But, they have managed the property since their father's death in 1977. Just a year or two later they began redeveloping the prime site on the ranch, now called "The Brothers' Vineyard."

For ten years, all of the Snowden fruit went to their friend Warren Winiarski at Stag's Leap Wine Cellars. In 1993, the Snowdens ventured into producing wine under the family name. For the next ten years, the vineyard fruit went to the family label, Silver Oak Wine Cellars, Frank Family Vineyard, Caymus Vineyards, and Viader. But by 2003, it was time to keep all of the fruit for themselves.

Randy and Scott continued to invest in the family legacy. They planted additional vineyards – today 23 acres are planted to vines – the rest is left to Nature. Those 23 acres are divided among locations on the Ranch, each varying in elevation, aspect and soil composition.

- **The Lost Orchard** – replanted in 1997; 4 acres Cabernet Sauvignon; 1 acre Sauvignon Blanc
- **Lower Vineyard** – 1.5 acres Cabernet Sauvignon
- **Los Ricos Vineyard** – replanted in 1997; 1 acre Cabernet Sauvignon
- **Brothers Vineyard** – entirely replanted in 2011; 11 acres Cabernet Sauvignon of clones 169, 191, and 337
- **The Blending Blocks:** 2 acres Merlot, 1 acre Petit Verdot, 1 acre Cabernet Franc; Newly planted 1/3<sup>rd</sup> acre Malbec

Snowden Vineyards is a four-generation family affair with sons, daughters, wives, and cousins all in the mix. In January of 2005, Diana Snowden, Scott's daughter, along with consulting winemaker, Dave Ramey, assumed winemaking duties. Beginning with the 2012 vintage, Diana handles all the winemaking duties herself. She is the winemaker at Snowden Vineyards and the enologist at Domaine Dujac in Burgundy, where she resides with her husband Jeremy Seysses and their two children, Aubert and Blaise.

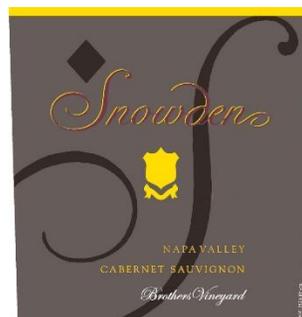
Today, Snowden Vineyards produces two Bordeaux blends and very small amounts of Sauvignon Blanc, Merlot, and Petit Verdot from their estate vineyards.

## Snowden Cabernet Sauvignon Brothers Vineyard

2013 marks the first year a single vineyard designate wine from the 11 acre block we call the "Brothers Vineyard" was produced. The brothers are, of course, Scott and Randy, who replanted the field in 1981 and again in 2011. The Brothers Vineyard is the biggest and best vineyard site, situated at 850 feet of elevation right on the top of our hill. The block overlooks Napa to the south and, just to the north, the hill falls dramatically off into Conn Valley. The initial blend was: 98% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Petit Verdot.

The **Snowden Cabernet Sauvignon "The Ranch"** is produced from a combination of young vines and declassified wine from the Brothers Vineyard program. Diana has saved the estate Merlot for The Ranch blend. The Ranch is more approachable in its youth than its illustrious stable mate. It also is bottled unfiltered.

Beyond their investment in the vineyards, the Snowdens' hearts are in this property. We can expect the Snowden legacy to continue for generations to come.



**W**INES

Cabernet Sauvignon The Ranch  
Cabernet Sauvignon Brothers Vineyard  
Sauvignon Blanc - Sunninghill  
Merlot – Lost Vineyard  
Petit Verdot – Levi Philander Davis Vineyard