

SNOWDEN

Snowden 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 the 1870's. 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, and 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 some of Napa Valley's pioneering producers – Inglenook, Heitz, Beaulieu and Robert Mondavi.

Careers as winemakers turned out not to be the plan coming from a family of ordinary means. Scott and Randy both had to take "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. In the ensuing years, the vineyard fruit has gone to the family label, Silver Oak Wine Cellars, Frank Family Vineyard, Caymus Vineyards, David Ramey and Viader. Today, the family still sells some of their fruit to their friends at Silver Oak.

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, 0.8 acres Petit Verdot, 1.3 acres Cabernet Franc; Most recently planted is .4 of an acre divided between Mourvedre and Grenache.

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, assumed winemaking duties. 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 three Cabernet Sauvignons and very small amounts of Sauvignon Blanc, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot from their estate vineyards.

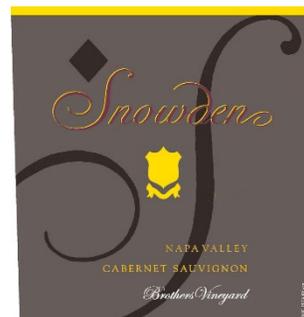
Snowden Cabernet Sauvignon Brothers Vineyard

2013 marked the first year a single vineyard designate wine from the 11 acre block called 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 wine is currently made from 100% Cabernet Sauvignon from the specific plot called "Palomino Hill".

Snowden Cabernet Sauvignon The Ranch

This wine is produced from a combination of the highest and lowest Cabernet blocks on the property. Diana sometimes includes the estate Merlot in 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.



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Cabernet Sauvignon The Ranch
Cabernet Sauvignon Brothers Vineyard
Sauvignon Blanc Sunninghill
Merlot Lost Vineyard
Cabernet Franc Melchior Kemper Vineyard
Petit Verdot Levi Philander Davis Vineyard