



Diamond Creek Vineyards

Single-Vineyard, terroir-driven Cabernet Sauvignons that changed the destiny of Napa Valley wines.

Our Story

For over a half century Diamond Creek has produced Single-Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignons from its stunning estate on Napa Valley's Diamond Mountain. True to the mission of its founders, the winery has never veered from its path of creating wines that express the unique terroirs that coexist on this geologically diverse yet relatively small piece of earth.

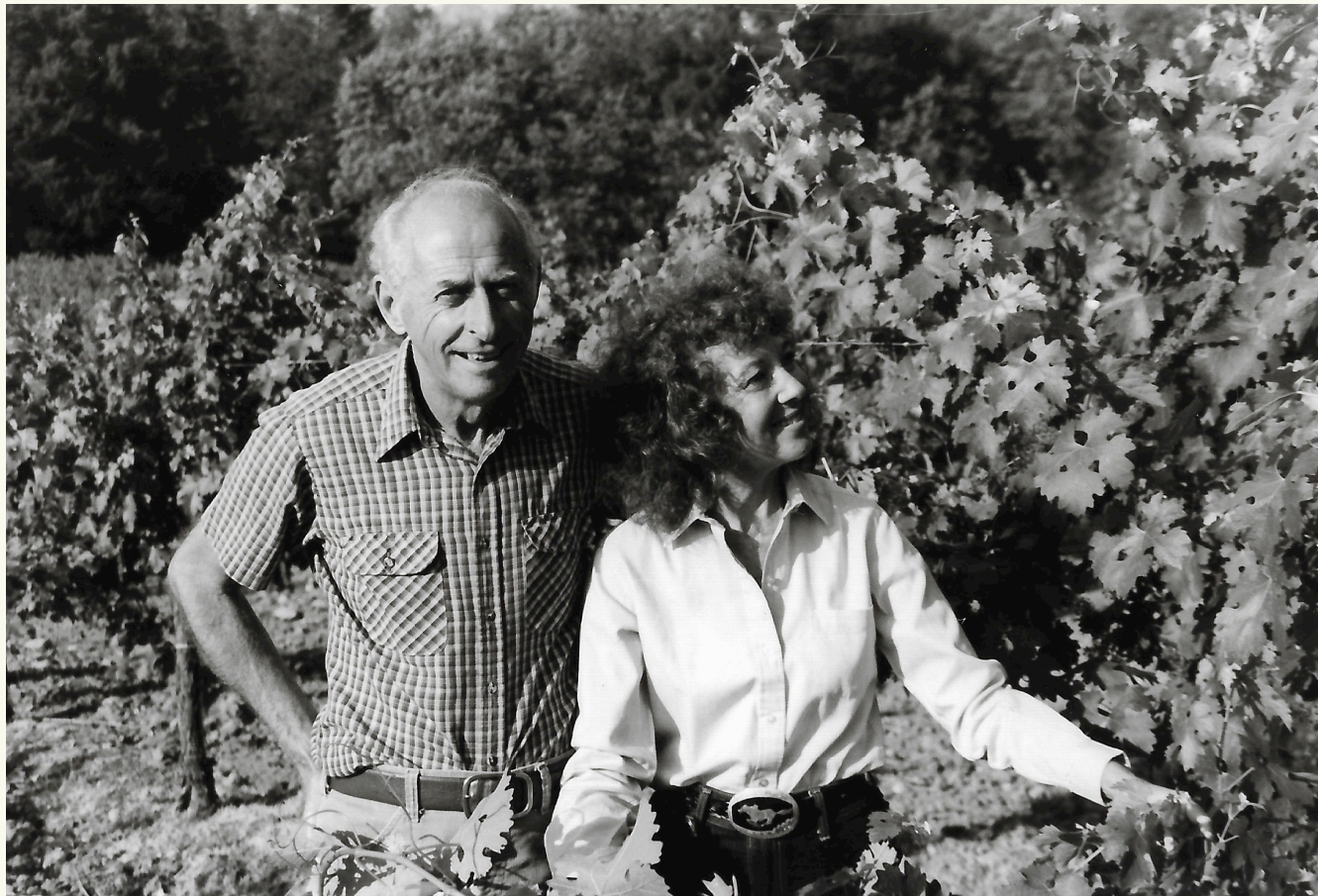
In 1968 visionary Al Brounstein defied modern conventions and planted Bordeaux varietals in the secluded Diamond Mountain AVA in the Napa Valley. Diamond Creek Vineyards became known for Single Vineyard, terroir-driven Cabernet Sauvignons that changed the destiny of Napa Valley wines.

In 2020, 52 years after its founding, Diamond Creek was acquired by the Rouzaud family of world-renowned Maison Louis Roederer, whose roots in wine date to the 1700s. The relationship between the Rouzaud and Brounstein families stretched back three decades, with an admiration and mutual respect for one another born of a common love for wine and its role in history, culture and life.

Today, under the ownership of the Rouzaud family of world-renowned Maison Louis Roederer, we are committed to nurturing the Diamond Creek property and its site-driven Cabernet Sauvignons to even higher expressions of quality and singularity.



Our Founders



Al and Boots Brounstein at Diamond Creek Vineyards early 1970s

Diamond Creek Vineyards was founded in 1968 by Al and Boots Brounstein, pioneers of the modern Napa Valley wine industry. Risk-takers and visionaries who early on recognized the valley's suitability for growing Cabernet Sauvignon, they also understood the powerful role that soils and microclimates play in determining the character of a wine.

When Al found the property on Diamond Mountain that would become Diamond Creek Vineyards, he saw what no one else could see. It was the late 1960s, the beginning of the renaissance of winegrowing in Napa Valley. A wine lover, Francophile and adventurer at heart, Al ignored the naysayers who said that planting a vineyard in this remote and untamed region was crazy.

Slowly, steadily, and with no compromises, Al and Boots developed their Diamond Mountain estate into a property like no other in Napa Valley, assiduously dissecting it into four parcels with distinct terroirs. From these microsites, Volcanic Hill, Gravelly Meadow, Red Rock Terrace and Lake, they created captivating, complex, long-lived wines and a winery beloved by legions.

Our Approach



To craft a truly great wine, we believe you must possess the finest vineyard sites with the best soils, exposures and microclimates. At just twenty planted acres Diamond Creek is a fantastically diverse wine estate, sculpted by centuries of geologic activity. Ideally suited to growing Cabernet Sauvignon, the site is divided into four distinct vineyards, each bottled separately with appreciation and respect for its own unique terroir.

We continue to nurture this diversity with a team that has farmed and made wine from Diamond Creek for decades. Our goal is simply this: to maintain this purity of place and enhance it as we can, allowing the land to continue to speak for itself.

Our Owners



Frédéric Rouzaud, 7th generation Roederer Family and President & CEO of Maison Louis Roederer

In 1997, Frédéric Rouzaud’s father, Jean-Claude, celebrated thirty years at the helm of Champagne Louis Roederer by selecting what he considered to be thirty of the world’s top wineries and featuring them at a tasting and dinner at the famed Paris restaurant Tour D’Argent. It was there that Al and Boots Brounstein of Diamond Creek met the Rouzaud family, as Diamond Creek wines were poured alongside Bordeaux First Growths, Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, Chateau d’Yquem, California’s Ridge Vineyards and others. Over the evening, a friendship blossomed, one that eventually led to a passing of the baton from one wine family to another.

“Our relationship with Diamond Creek began with a personal connection. We knew of its history in Napa Valley, its focus on terroir-driven Cabernet Sauvignon. But when we met Al and Boots Brounstein, we discovered something much deeper: the vital energy and passion for the land that lies at the heart of great wine estates the world over. The opportunity to carry on their legacy resonated with us.”

—Frédéric Rouzaud



Jean-Claude Rouzaud with Boots Brounstein. The two families’ relationship began in the 1990s

Our Future

In Frédéric Rouzaud and Maison Louis Roederer, Al and Boots Brounstein found the ideal stewards for Diamond Creek: a family with a deep reverence for history and a generational vision for the future of the wine estates under its care.

Entrusted with continuing the Diamond Creek legacy are President Nicole Carter and Winemaker Graham Wehmeier. Nicole brings a wise perspective that comes from nearly three decades in wine, including the oversight of historical properties in California, Argentina and Australia.

With a background that includes both winemaking and vineyard management, Graham has a deep understanding of hillside terroir and mountain-grown wines. Working with our long-tenured team, Nicole and Graham bring the vital energy and passion for the land that lies at the heart of great wine estates the world over.



Our Wines

Gravelly Meadow

Planted in 1968 on pebbly brown soil, the Gravelly Meadow Vineyard comprises approximately 5 acres of the Estate.

Pebble-strewn Soils in a Pre-historic Riverbed

Gravelly Meadow is a relatively flat site that was once a pre-historic riverbed. Situated in one of the cooler microclimates on the Diamond Creek estate, the vineyard possesses pebbly, porous brown soils which drain rapidly, compelling the vines to struggle for moisture.

Gravelly Meadow Cabernet Sauvignon is typically the first to be tasted in the line-up of Diamond Creek Cabernets. It often evokes freshly tilled earth, currant, plum, and ripe blackberry flavors, well-defined, elegant tannins and a mineral, persistent finish.

Microclimate:	Cool/Cooler
Elevation:	550 ft
Soils:	Rocky, stony, porous
Aspect:	Relatively flat



Our Wines

Red Rock Terrace

Planted in 1968 on iron rich, red rocky soil, the Red Rock Terrace Vineyard comprises approximately 7 acres of the Estate.

A Warm Microclimate Yields Velvety Tannins

North-facing Red Rock Terrace is a steeply terraced vineyard. The rocky, red-tinted soil is high in oxidized iron content, and because of its northerly aspect, the grapes receive less direct sunlight. Red Rock Terrace is typically the second wine to be tasted in a line-up of Diamond Creek's four Cabernets.

Red Rock Terrace often expounds with dark cherry and black currant flavors, ripe, mouthcoating, velvety tannins and notes of tea, iron and savory dried herbs.

Microclimate:	Warm
Elevation:	530-600 ft
Soils:	Rocky, red soils; high in iron
Aspect:	North-facing



Our Wines

Volcanic Hill

Planted in 1968 on light, fluffy, ashy soil, the Volcanic Hill Vineyard comprises approximately 8 acres of the Estate.

An Eminently Age-worthy Cabernet

Volcanic Hill is a south-facing hillside vineyard. The consistency of the gray soil is that of light, fluffy, volcanic ash, originally deposited from the eruption of Mt. Konocti eight million years ago. Sitting in one of the estate's warmer microclimates, the site typically produces Diamond Creek's most powerful and long-lived wine, typically the third wine to be tasted in the line-up of Diamond Creek's four Cabernet Sauvignons.

Volcanic Hill is a full-bodied Cabernet with ripe berry fruit, smoky richness, scented earth and elegant tannins that make the wine alluring in youth but eminently age-worthy.

Microclimate: Warmest
Elevation: 530-610 ft
Soils: White, fluffy volcanic ash
Aspect: South-facing



The Microclimates of Diamond Creek Vineyards Calistoga, California

