

# DIRECTORY OF WINERIES

## STUART CELLARS

33515 Rancho California Road  
Hours: 10am - 5pm  
Info: Call (951) 676-6414  
Web: stuartcellars.com

## THORNTON WINERY

32575 Rancho California Road  
Hours: 11am - 5pm  
Info: Call (951) 699-0099  
Web: thortonwine.com

## WIENS FAMILY CELLARS

35055 Via Del Ponte  
Hours: 10am - 5pm  
Info: Call (951) 694-9892  
Web: wienscellars.com

## WILSON CREEK WINERY & VINEYARDS

35960 Rancho California Road  
Hours: 10am - 5pm  
Info: Call (951) 699-9463  
Web: wilsoncreekwinery.com

[NORTH SAN DIEGO]

## BELLE MARIE WINERY

26312 Mesa Rock Road,  
Escondido  
Hours: 11am - 5pm  
Info: Call (760) 796-7557  
Web: bellemarie.com

## DEER PARK WINERY

29013 Champagne Blvd.,  
Escondido  
Hours: 10am - 5pm  
Info: Call (760) 749-1666

## FALLBROOK WINERY

2554 Via Rancheros, Fallbrook  
Hours: 10am - 4pm/Wkds by appt.  
Info: Call (760) 728-0156  
Web: fallbrookwinery.com

## FERRARA WINERY

1120 W. 15th Ave. Escondido  
Hours: 10am - 5pm  
Info: Call (760) 745-7632  
Web: ferrarawinery.com

## ORFILA VINEYARDS & WINERY

13455 San Pasqual Rd., Escondido  
Hours: 10am - 6pm  
Info: Call (760) 738-6500  
Web: orfila.com

## TWIN OAKS VALLEY VINTNERS

735 East Mission Rd., San Marcos  
Hours: 11am - 4pm  
Info: Call (760) 471-9192

For a printable wine tasting map of Temecula and North San Diego wineries, visit [MyUnderTheSun.com](http://MyUnderTheSun.com).

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# The Perfect MIXED MARRIAGE

BY CINDY LEMOS



*Who's your daddy?*

That's the question Dr. Carol Meredith, a geneticist at the University of California at Davis, set out to answer when she pioneered the use of DNA typing to trace the parentage of the Cabernet Sauvignon grape. Turns out the king of the reds resulted from a spontaneous cross-pollination in the 1600s between cabernet franc (a red grape) and sauvignon blanc (a white grape) which produced a single hybrid vine.

Talk about the perfect mixed marriage! Cabernet Sauvignon inherited its smooth cherry and tobacco flavors from Cab Franc, complemented by its elegant, fresh herbaceousness from Sauvignon Blanc. Today Cabernet Sauvignon is a major player in the wildly popular Meritage-style wine (rhymes with

*her-i-tage*), which must contain at least two Bordeaux varietals to be considered "legal." Other grapes blended with Cabernet Sauvignon generally include Merlot and Cabernet Franc, but sometimes Malbec or the elusive Petite Verdot is also used.

An amazing local Meritage is Stuart Cellars' *Long Valley Red*. Intended to age for years, it's the go-to bottle to pull for that special occasion...but oh so good now! Exhibiting smooth, ripe black cherry and plum fruit with tobacco and good oak flavors, this complex wine made from estate-grown Temecula Valley fruit blends five different Bordeaux grape varieties. Amazing paired with bleu cheese topped filet mignon!

Another grape with well-known relatives is Syrah and its cousin, Petite Syrah. My new favorite is Miramonte Winery's *3 Block Shiraz*, a young wine that shows a lot of promise. Characterized by rich berry flavors and blackstrap molasses with a spicy bite, this bottle is the perfect companion for an outdoor concert in the Wine Country.

My pick for a great light wine for Mother's Day is the Sauvignon Blanc. As a fledgling sommelier, I had a "crush" on Napa Valley's *Newton Sauvignon Blanc* and I'm just as crazy about wines from this grape today! Balanced and fruity, but not sweet, Thornton Winery's *Sauvignon Blanc* is crisp and refreshing, with hints of lush pear and pineapple with lemon zest. A versatile wine, the Sauvignon Blanc is equally as comfortable at a spring picnic or a candlelight dinner for two.

**Correction:** In last month's column, we incorrectly referenced South Coast Winery's sparkling wine made from Petite Verdot. In actuality, it is the Syrah which is their sparkling wine and is used to make the winery's Ruby Cuvee. The Petite Verdot is a "still wine."



Cindy Lemos, a.k.a. "the WinoGal" is a wine aficionado and the former Sommelier at the Ahwahnee Hotel in Yosemite Valley. For more information on Cindy's private tasting parties and customized Wine Country tours, email Cindy at [cindy@WinoGal.com](mailto:cindy@WinoGal.com) or visit [winogal.com](http://winogal.com).

