

Back to basics, for the love of making Pinot Noir...

David and Cynthia Enns



20 years | 20 vintages

CELEBRATING OUR WINEMAKER, DAVID ENNS



From the beginning, people have always asked the same question at winery events... "So...who's the winemaker?" I'm not sure why it was such a leap of imagination to think that when you put all you've got into starting a winery, that that same person would *actually choose* to do all the hard work too.

So the answer is "Of course it's David... and has been since day one".

20 Years of Winemaking History

This release of the 2020 vintage of 1 Mill Road is a nostalgic one. As we celebrate David's 20th vintage of winemaking, we look back to the early days of 2001. David's journey began as a true garagiste, making wine from just one ton of Cabernet Sauvignon from Walla Walla, Washington. He and John Clerides of Marquis Wine Cellars headed south (through a closed US border following 9/11) to get grapes after they got the sudden call "*They're ripe! Come get 'em!*".

David convinced oldest son Dustin to skip out of high school (not a hard pitch) to help him and Cynthia (who was curious but quite uncertain) to crush the grapes in a friend's garage in White Rock, BC. There were just enough fermented grapes to fill one French oak barrel. He repeated the process the following year, this time making 2 barrels of Washington State Syrah. At that point, he was officially bitten by the winemaking bug, and together with Cynthia (who was still curious but now semi-certain) welcomed the escape from corporate careers in finance.

Fast forward a decade and David was making some of the most respected wines in the country having founded Laughing Stock Vineyards on the Naramata Bench, with partner in life and vineyard, Cynthia. Over 15 vintages, the wines garnered much recognition including two Lieutenant Governor's Awards of Excellence in BC Wines, best Red Wine in Canada by Decanter Magazine, a Trophy for Best Syrah in the 6 Nations Wine Challenge, as well as many Gold and Platinums along the way.

David is mainly self-taught, with a background from wine programs at UC Davis and Okanagan College. The first two vintages up on the Naramata Bench were under the tutelage of then owner and winemaker of Poplar Grove Winery, Ian Sutherland. In the past 5 years, David & Cynthia decided to leave the big winery world and just focus on making one varietal from one place from their Home Block vineyard in Naramata with 1 Mill Road.

20th
vintage