

FOOD & WINE

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WHAT TO DRINK NEXT

Homestead Wines What it means when the winemaker actually lives among the vines.

By Ray Isle

What does home mean? For some winemakers, it means a house surrounded by vines- a place where they raise their family and tend livestock, where growing grapes and making wine isn't just a job but a way of life.



...when you farm your land yourself, a personal knowledge of each dip and furrow in the ground, of seasonal changes in the weather over the span of years, and of each vine's individual character becomes an inevitability rather than an option. Choosing wine that's the product of a homestead is far more about origin and approach. Wine is a product of the earth; knowing the farmer is tied to their land- and so is driven to treat the land with care and conscience- ought to make a difference to anyone about to take that first sip.

2016 Hendry Blocks 7&22 Zinfandel

Longtime Napa Valley residents—a rarity these days—the Hendry family has owned their property in the Mayacamas foothills since 1939 and still lives there. Zinfandel is their forte, and dark, peppery berry flavors are the signature of this robust red.

