

Plymouth, California

# Renwood Winery

**S**URROUNDED by rolling hills and streams in the heart of Amador County's picturesque Shenandoah Valley, Renwood Winery is experiencing an exciting resurgence, reminiscent of the California Gold Rush days. The winery, which was founded in 1993 and grew through the years in case production size from 2,500 to 100,000, has always been lauded for its excellent wines. Now, under new Argentinean ownership, it is capable of even more.

Winemaker Dave Crippen, who has been at Renwood since 2003, couldn't be happier. "I have been making wine for 30 years this harvest and I have never felt as optimistic and enthusiastic as I do today," Dave says.

For starters, Assistant Winemaker Jon Affonso is back on board. "Jon has great skills and will keep a close nose on our daily operations," Dave says. The physical winery facility has maintained its basic layout, but it has been updated with some new equipment, highlighted by the addition of more than 1,000 new

barrels—500 of which are French Oak.

Dave is also expanding his own horizons. For one thing, he has traveled to South America. "We have quite a team worldwide with all levels of expertise," he says. "In Argentina and Uruguay, they are working with grape varieties that I have little experience with, such as Malbec and Torrontés. They, of course, have never worked with Zinfandel. So there's a great exchange of knowledge."



This global perspective is certainly enriching Dave and his colleagues at Renwood, but the winery's focus remains the same. "Our focus has always been on Zinfandel," Dave says. "We're not going to abandon Barbera or Syrah, but we'll make them in smaller quantities." Although

Renwood now has the resources to expand its reach to all of California's great Zinfandel growing regions, the winery's heart will always belong to Amador County. "We want to do all we can to bring awareness of Amador quality to the forefront," Dave says. 🌿

## WHAT TO BUY

### '08 Grandpere Zinfandel

Blackberry, coffee, cracked pepper, plum, anise \$39.99

### '08 Jack Rabbit Flat Zinfandel

Tobacco, holiday spices, berry pie, white pepper \$29.99

### '09 Old Vine Zinfandel

Holiday spices, ripe blackberries, ginger, white pepper \$19.99

## CONTACT

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renwood.com

## TASTING

Tasting Room Open Daily 10:30–5

12225 Steiner Rd

Plymouth, CA 95669

## SPECIAL NOTES

Private tastings by appointment, picnic grounds, deli case, wine club benefits and discounts, sustainable winemaking practices

1. Old Vine Zinfandel grown in Amador soils displays spicy aromas, fruity flavors, a chalky tannins
2. The wines have always received high ratings
3. With 1,000 new barrels, Renwood's future looks very promising

