



# SABINA

VINEYARDS

## WINEMAKER DAVID DESANTE BIOGRAPHY

David DeSante's winemaking philosophy is deceptively simple and can best be summed up with the phrase, "keep it real". His straightforward approach to grape growing and to the production of superlative wines is quite refreshing especially in our present time. David focuses on "winegrowing", that is, making sure that the quality of fruit grown for Sabina Vineyards is exceptional. He then draws on his extensive winemaking background and experience to inform decisions along the way. As David says, "The best wines are like the people we enjoy; they are interesting and full of character."

Born in Erie, Pennsylvania, David attended the Medical College of Virginia with the intention of becoming a doctor. While attending school, he met and married his soul mate, Katharine, who encouraged him to pursue his dream of becoming a winemaker. The couple left for California, where David enrolled in the Viticulture and Enology program at the University of California at Davis. After earning his master's degree, David went on to conduct research on grape varieties for Robert Mondavi Winery. He proceeded to gain experience by working in the Margaret River region of Australia, Washington State and by studying winemaking in Bordeaux. In 1997, David and Katharine returned to Napa Valley. He became the winemaker at S. Anderson Vineyards, and she became a chef. He applied his studies to expand the wine program beyond that of sparkling wines to hand-craft delicious, age-worthy Cabernet Sauvignon full of nuance and character. Today David and Katharine have their own wine brand, and besides making Sabina Vineyards wines, they also consult for several other small, luxury Napa Valley brands.