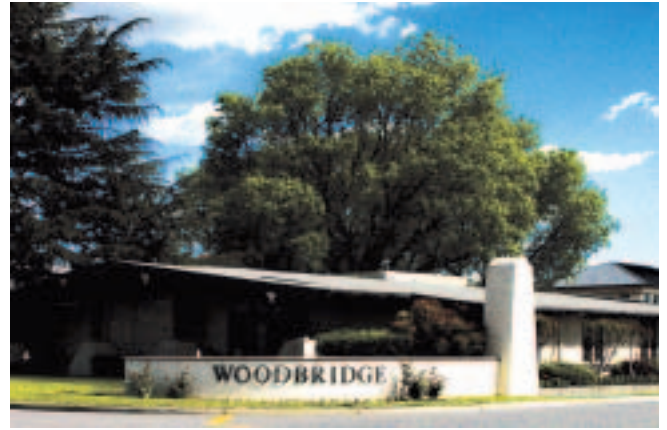


The Mondavi Woodbridge Winery Tour

THE WINEMAKER'S ART



Touring the center of an extensive wine region in Lodi, California, a traveler will find that the art of winemaking in Woodbridge is set in surprisingly rural surroundings. There is possibly no winery tour grander than the Robert Mondavi Woodbridge Winery Tour. The tasting room is located in a signature center, just minutes from Highway 99's dividing line through the Lodi Wine Appellation. Taking the Woodbridge Road exit to the Robert Mondavi Woodbridge Visitor Center, Larry Pilmaier at the tasting room is more than willing to explain the many reasons why Lodi has been a chief California wine producing region from the very beginning.

"Specific climate and soil conditions are right for producing the world's great wine grapes from as early as the 1920's.

Robert Mondavi has only captured a small percentage of the grape growing market worldwide but, Woodbridge successfully exemplifies "everyday wine for

everyday living," a concept promoted by Robert Mondavi. Probably the largest boutique winery in the world, the winery is producing barrel-aged wine in over 70,000 oak casks under strict and complex controls in processing the many grapes gathered in the region just for Woodbridge.

Larry begins your tour with the Robert Mondavi family history, the conditions of great grape growing and the reasons why Woodbridge winery stands apart from other wineries. He begins by demystifying perceiving pure essences, "one considers the aroma and bouquet of each varietal vintage is equal to half of the experience of good wine tasting and exhibits the common character of wine." From here, the tour emerges to the expansive grounds at Woodbridge that houses massive storage and bottling facilities; all overseen by the perfect Lodi warm, sunny days and cool nights. "Nearly 40% of the state's Zinfandel is now grown in Lodi. In all, the best example of this is comparing 15,000 total grape acres grown here in 1990, against today's 90,000 acres!

At Robert Mondavi, they have the background that makes possible not just to grow great grapes but, to "grow great wine!" Free public tours are given Tuesday through Sunday at 9:30am and 1:30pm. Private tours are available by appointment.



*Woodbridge
Winery was
purchased
by Robert
Mondavi
in 1979*

