

BOKISCH VINEYARDS HISTORY & FACT SHEET

NAME: Bokisch Vineyards

OWNERS: Markus and Liz Bokisch

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TASTING ROOM: 18921 Atkins Road, Lodi, CA 95240

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WINE CLUB MANAGER: Jeff Perry jeff@bokischvineyards.com (209) 334-4338

WINES:

Bokisch Vineyards label:

Whites: Rosado, Albariño Las Cerezas Vineyard, Albariño Terra Alta Vineyard, Garnacha Blanca, Verdelho, Verdejo

Reds: Garnacha, Monastrell, Tempranillo, Graciano

Tizona by Bokisch label:

Reds: Old Vine Zinfandel, Malbec, Late Harvest Graciano

HISTORY

Markus and Liz Bokisch have a love of Spain due to Markus's family heritage. His mother's family lives in Catalonia, Spain along the Mediterranean coast near the Delta del Ebro. Markus spent many a childhood summer watching his water glass go from a light shade of pink to eventually a dark red as the ratio of wine to water matched his age. After meeting Liz at UC Davis, Markus began working at Joseph Phelps Vineyards as a viticulturist in 1989. He became intimately acquainted with long forgotten viticultural areas of California in search of old vine Rhone varieties such as Grenache, Carignane and Mourvedre for the newly released "Le Mistral" Program. This is how he first discovered the charms of the Lodi Appellation. Meanwhile, they became "garagistes," experimenting with home winemaking inspired by Liz's father who had been a home winemaker for many years.

In 1992 Markus and Liz moved to Spain and began working in the Spanish wine industry in Raimat and Sant Sadurni d'Anoia. Upon their return, they began their dream of growing & producing Spanish wines and purchased their first vineyard property in 1995. Soon after, they left the Napa Valley and moved to Lodi where they planted their Spanish varietal vineyard in 1999. What they found was not all that surprising...Spanish varietals thrive in the California climate! One would expect that when the Spanish Missionaries came to California they would have planted their favorite varieties from home. However, it has taken a special combination between Markus's Spanish heritage and Liz's pioneer ties to the region to make the discovery. Their goal is to have Spanish varietals such as Albariño, Tempranillo, Graciano and Garnacha roll off the wine lover's tongue just as easily as other Spanish words embedded in our culture.

FARMING

Markus and Liz, in their entrepreneurial spirit, began Bokisch Ranches, LLC in 1996 to apply Markus' international viticultural experience to grape growing in Lodi, the largest wine grape producing region in California. Bokisch Ranches Inc. currently farms 2,000 acres and is a leader in sustainable farming, solar energy and land stewardship. All of their vineyards are Certified Green by the Lodi Rules of Sustainable Winegrowing. They also own 80 acres of CCOF Certified Organic vineyards. They employ a 28 kilowatt solar energy system to run their irrigation pump at two sites. Many of the vineyards farmed by Bokisch Ranches Inc. contract their grapes to high end wineries throughout Napa, Sonoma and Amador counties and as far away as Arizona and Colorado. They currently sell over 300 tons to 40 different wineries in these premium wine grape programs all hand harvested into ½ ton bins. Bokisch Ranches is known for its high quality farming which can customize the viticulture to fit the protocols of each winemaker.