

about **Barbour Wines**

In 1992 and after decades of developing and maintaining some of the best vineyards in Napa Valley, Jim Barbour decided it was time to make his own wine. He chose a vineyard just south of St. Helena to cultivate his grapes and recruited the help of good friend and winemaker, Heidi Peterson Barrett, to start Barbour Wines.



Jim was raised in Napa Valley on his family's ranch located in Rutherford, growing table grapes, prunes and apples. He remembers a different Napa Valley than today's – one as a much more rural setting where he rode his bike freely on Highway 29. When the wine industry was in its infancy, Jim convinced his Dad to take a risk and plant 5 acres of Chardonnay. Eventually, the Chardonnay became more profitable than the rest of the family's business, and Jim discovered his true calling. He graduated from the University of California-Davis with a Bachelor's Degree in Plant Science (viticulture) and began his career as one of Napa's most sought-after vineyard managers.

Jim and his daughter, Fiona, are "partners" in Barbour Wines. Fiona was just 2 years old when Jim planted the family's vineyard, and she has been a fixture there ever since. As a child, she would sit in Jim's lap while he drove the tractor and worked the field. Fiona has always been a part of harvest, even if it meant missing a few hours of school in the early morning. Her job was to pick stray leaves out of grape bins, which she didn't mind except for the spiders. 2009 is the first harvest Fiona will miss – she just started her freshman year at Fairfield University where she's studying creative writing.

From a mere 50 cases produced with its inaugural release in 1995, Barbour Wines has steadily grown to reach its current production of 500 cases of Cabernet Sauvignon. Jim, Fiona and Heidi continue their tradition of creating collectible, fine wines.

