

An aerial photograph of a vineyard in a hilly landscape during sunset. The foreground shows rows of grapevines on a slope. The middle ground features a dense forest of trees. The background consists of rolling hills under a warm, golden sky. The text is overlaid on a dark semi-transparent rectangle in the middle-right area.

EPOCH ESTATE WINES FARMING PRACTICES

“As an overview, we have always had the goal of the vines being a direct reflection of the special sites on which they are grown. We have worked hard to figure out how best to make this a reality, and that is how we landed on biodynamic farming. We believe that less inputs and a focus on the soil health leads to a more direct representation of terroir (to use the French term).”

-Jordan Fiorentini, Winemaker

A photograph of a vineyard at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow. The vineyard is in the foreground, with several grapevines visible. The vines are supported by a trellis system. The background is a soft, hazy landscape. A semi-transparent text box is overlaid on the lower half of the image, containing the title and a paragraph of text.

BODYNAMIC FARMING

In day-to-day practice, the goal of biodynamic farming is to create a farm system that is minimally dependent on imported materials, and instead meets its needs from the living dynamics of the farm itself. It is the biodiversity of the farm, organized so that the waste of one part of the farm becomes the energy for another, that results in an increase in the farm's capacity for self-renewal and, ultimately, makes the farm sustainable.

EXAMPLES OF BIODYNAMIC FARMING



Avoiding chemical soil fertilizers to enhance soil fertility.



Considering the health of all of the biological organisms on the vineyard—from living organisms in the soil to the animals that live there.



Using cover crops to help with soil erosions, crowding out weeds, and increasing biodiversity.

PADEREWSKI

Home to intense earth that bears little resemblance to typical California soils, this vineyard is filled with lean, rocky, and calcareous soil profiles. Daily, temperatures can vary here as much as 50 degrees, creating the ideal environment for achieving that perfect acidity in ripening wine grapes. After carefully pairing the hillsides with their respective grape rootstocks, varieties, and clones, this vineyard is planted with *Syrah*, *Mourvèdre*, *Grenache*, *Petite Sirah*, *Carignane*, *Graciano*, *Tempranillo*, *Zinfandel*, *Cabernet Sauvignon*, *Cabernet Franc*, *Merlot*, *Petite Verdot*, *Viognier*, and *Clairette Blanc*.

CATAPULT

Directly in the heart of Paso's Templeton Gap sits our Catapult Vineyard. This property's extreme, rocky soils are packed with silicious shale and little limestone content, the type of soil that encourages its vines to struggle while finding nourishment deep within the ground. The reward of these hardworking vine are berries packed with complexity and intense flavors. *Syrah*, *Grenache*, *Mourvèdre*, *Tempranillo*, *Grenache Blanc*, *Roussanne*, and *Viognier* are planted to this plot of land that was born to be a vineyard.

YORK MOUNTAIN

Located just seven miles from the Pacific Ocean at an elevation of 1,500 feet, our historic York Mountain Vineyard falls in the small 640 acre York Mountain AVA, which is just outside of the much larger Paso Robles AVA. The soils and climate here are very different from our other two vineyards: sand and sandstone soils run throughout this 21-acre vineyard (some areas look like you are on the beach), and the Pacific Ocean's close proximity moderates the climate to make it much milder and cooler throughout the growing season. This unique, "cool climate" vineyard is planted to *Syrah*, *Grenache*, *Mourvèdre*, *Cabernet Sauvignon*, and *Zinfandel*, *Viognier*, and *Roussanne*.

THE VINEYARDS



A man with a beard, wearing a dark jacket and a cap with a logo, is shown in profile, looking down at a bunch of dark grapes he is holding in his hands. The background is a vineyard with rows of grapevines under a clear sky. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white box.

WHY GOOD FARMING MATTERS

Good wine is made from good grapes, and good grapes come from healthy vineyards. By taking care of our soil and training our vines to be more self-sustaining, our vines live longer and our wines can more directly reflect the special sites on which they are grown.