

LYNMAR ESTATE

Russian River Valley

PETE SOERGEL

WINEMAKER

Pete Soergel loves living in California. But then again, who wouldn't? A third-generation farmer, Pete spent his early days working at the family business in Pennsylvania, tending to the apple orchards and working in the market. Like his dad and grandfather, Pete inherited a green thumb and a strong work ethic. When he reached college age, he followed his interests to Virginia Tech where he earned a degree in Horticulture.

After graduation, Pete was encouraged by his Aunt Diane to visit California. Pete's Aunt Diane is just the sort of friend we all hope to someday make. Through her work as a curator and collector, she is phenomenally well-versed in the fineries of art, food, and wine. She introduced Pete to her friends Michael and Mary Calhoun of Landmark Vineyards. With no wine experience, contacts or connections, Pete packed up the car to go work his first harvest. California or bust.



Throughout that first vintage in 2006, California easily worked its magic on Pete. Sonoma's temperate climate, dynamic landscapes, and adventurous outdoor lifestyle became a part of him. His interest in wine gained with speed, and he packed his bags for New Zealand, where he worked his first harvest abroad at Framingham Wines in Marlborough.

Upon his return to the United States, Pete secured a harvest internship with cult Pinot Noir producer, Kosta Browne. After a busy 2007 vintage, he was asked to join the prestigious Kosta Browne team full time as cellar master. Several years later, he returned to Landmark Vineyards to work alongside winemaker Greg Stach. In 2012, one of Pete's longtime mentors, Shane Finley, requested that he join the production team at Lynmar Estate as assistant winemaker. After several successful vintages on the estate, Pete was promoted as Lynmar's winemaker in 2017.

Working with an ideal combination of a world-class vineyard, modern production facilities, and support from the owners at Lynmar, some may say that Pete Soergel is living the California dream. Today, Pete spends his days on one of the most pristine vineyard properties in the Russian River Valley, crafting wines that celebrate the nuance, balance and originality of this incredible place. Who could ask for more?