



Job Title: Associate Winemaker

Reports To: General Manager | Winemaker

Location: Los Olivos, CA

About Us

Zaca Mesa Winery & Vineyards is a family-owned and operated business located in the heart of Santa Barbara County's premier wine growing region. Established in 1973, we fuse the past with the present by honoring tradition while continuously exploring opportunities for growth and development to improve wine quality and sustainable viticultural practices.

Our location, surrounded by the San Rafael Mountains offers stunning office views of both vineyard and mountain landscapes.

About Our Open Role

We are seeking a motivated and enthusiastic individual to lead our cellar team as the Associate Winemaker. The Associate Winemaker is responsible for the day-to-day operations of wine production from harvest to bottling. The portfolio of wines you would be working with are made from grapes sourced from on and off our estate in Santa Barbara County.

The major responsibilities of this position include:

- Evaluate wine quality utilizing information from tastings, chemical and microbiological analyses and make recommendations and/or implement solutions to further develop the wines, while also factoring in quality, resources, labor, compliance, efficiency, and cost.
- Conduct monthly inventory and maintain database for bulk wine inventory including, wine movements, inventory tracking and bottling.
- Responsible for training, supervising, motivating, and developing all seasonal, part-time, and full-time cellar and laboratory personnel.
- Creation, development, and implementation of standard operating procedures for the cellar and laboratory that are consistent with the quality standards prescribed by the Winemaker.
- Track, manage and purchase supplies and equipment for production and bottling operations.
- Represent and promote the public image of Zaca Mesa Winery with active participation in community events and activities, seminars, tours, virtual tastings, and wine education.



- ❑ Development and implementation of annual safety training program for the winery.

About You

Words that people use to describe you include, self-motivated, hard-working, honest, leader, and passionate. You perform well under pressure while maintaining a positive attitude. You are a natural leader who is accountable and dependable and appreciate that, in a small business environment, everyone pitches in to ensure all tasks are completed and goals are met. You are a team player who motivates and empowers others to achieve maximum productivity and organizational success. You are passionate about producing exceptional site-driven wines reflective of Santa Barbara County.

What You Bring

- Minimum of 3 years as an Assistant Winemaker with experience in management.
- BS in Enology, Fermentation Science, Viticulture, Chemistry, or related sciences.
- Demonstrated leadership and management ability in a production and laboratory environment.
- Knowledge of production equipment, processes, and procedures, with demonstrated experience in cellar work such as racking, blending, pressing, filtration, winery sanitation and forklift operation.
- Experience with compliance, safety, and regulatory reporting.
- Willing to work extended hours to complete the job.

What We Offer

We are a team of wine industry professionals and enthusiasts alike with a proven track record of low employee turnover, a direct result of our people-first culture and family ownership. If you are passionate about producing exceptional wine and would like to join an experienced team of production and vineyard professionals, we would be interested in having you join us. We offer a competitive salary and benefits (401k, health, dental & vision). We provide extensive training, tools, and resources to set our applicants up for success.

Please send resume and cover letter to kristin@zacamesa.com.

We look forward to meeting you!