

Insider tips to private aviation.

THE XOJET BLOG.

XOJET's Guide to the 2016 Napa Valley Harvest

SEPTEMBER 23, 2016 | 2016 HARVEST, EVENTS, GARY WALTHER, LUXURY

Crocker & Starr: Pam Starr (co-owner and winemaker)

Located in the heart of Napa Valley (Dowdell Lane in St. Helena) and the restoration of the Crocker Vineyard Estate, Crocker & Starr grew out of a grape purchase discussion while Pam was winemaker at Spottswode. Pam makes Cabernet Sauvignon, Sauvignon Blanc, Cabernet Franc, and a Bordeaux blend.

THE 2016 VINTAGE

"The summer was not too hot," says Pam. "In five words, it's about early, abundant, generous, tradition, and community." Like the other winemakers, Pam says it's a nice bookend to the past five years.

FIVE-YEAR PERSPECTIVE

"2012 was textbook. 2013 has such long hand time that you could have gone golfing and come back in three days. 2014 was a smaller crop, but super high quality and structure. 2015 was easy-peasy, a no-rush vintage and one of the earliest finishes ever. I actually got to celebrate Halloween."

BIGGEST HARVEST CHALLENGE

"Getting the grapes in is pretty easy. It's the logistics. Getting the bins back. What if the scale breaks?"

HER FAVORITE PLACES

Pam is big on Napa town. "[The Bank at the Westin](#) makes a beautiful botanical gin martini and I can bring our dog, Griffin." She loves the Poetry Inn ("I can have everything delivered there") and the [Napa River Inn](#) ("get the new rooms facing the Napa River"). A secondary advantage: you can drink and walk home. She also recommends [Torc](#) "for pork and mushrooms like nobody's business."

The logo for Crocker & Starr, featuring the brand name in a serif font with a decorative flourish between the words.

Photo credit: Joe Hendricks



CHARLES COMMUNICATIONS
ASSOCIATES, LLC