

## Domaine Carneros: Blazing a Trail

BY MELANIE OFENLOCH | JUNE 30, 2021 | BLOG

For 30 years, Eileen Crane was at the helm as the founding winemaker and CEO of Domaine Carneros. In August, she passed the baton to a new CEO, Remi Cohen, who brings two decades of experience in all facets of the wine industry to the château. Both females are visionaries and trailblazers with a history of attention to detail to the cellar and vineyards, blazing their own trail through Carneros during their careers.

### A History of Visionary Females

For decades, Eileen Crane, who was often referred to as “America’s Doyenne of Sparkling Wine,” crafted sparkling wines for Domaine Carneros (which is owned by Champagne Taittinger). Crane, who was hired by the Taittinger family back in 1986, was tasked with not only producing their first sparkling wines, but also overseeing the construction of the winery. Since then, Domaine Carneros has built a portfolio of highly ranked sparkling wines. Crane has been known for her innovation from the first wine club to the first tasting room.

Remi Cohen was most recently the COO at Lede Family Wines. Cohen is well-qualified, having spent 20 years in wine, most of it in Carneros. She holds a BS in molecular and cellular biology from U.C. Berkeley, a master’s degree in viticulture from U.C. Davis and an MBA in finance from Golden Gate University. She’s worked at Saintsbury, Bouchaine, Merryvale and owned her own vineyard management company with a proven track-record in operations and in the vineyard.

Remi and I have a great story about lunch where we planned to have great white wines and oysters, but pivoted to cabernet instead due to crazy Dallas restaurant laws with alcohol. Life happens and that is one of my best lunches and stories with a new great friend.

