



“Here’s the thing about the vineyard, it’s where the magic happens...”

- a few words from Jamey Whetstone

WINEMAKER’S APPROACH: Drawing from 25+ years across a wide variety of locales, I definitely know what I want in the finished wines I make. So, when I am out there looking for vineyards from which to make Whetstone wine, I look at many different facets beginning with the varietal. Then comes sun exposure, water availability, soil makeup, proximity (or lack of) to the winery, farming, vineyard owners, and other grapes already growing nearby.

The relationship between vineyard and winery is exactly the same as a marriage, so I am real thoughtful when engaging in this kind of commitment. What makes a vineyard special can be any number of things. Ultimately, it is about the end product and what you, as a winemaker, want from it. Winemaking, for me, begins and ends in the vineyard. The cellar is icing on the cake and a chance to reflect on what you did/did not do well during the growing season. Riding through the vineyard, I can see the beginnings of wine that will magically come from all this labor.