



Joe Tapparo

Winemaker

Raeburn Winemaker Joe Tapparo considered the vines of Sonoma's Dry Creek Valley his playground as a child. His great grandfather planted a vineyard near the family home, and as he grew older, was put to work pruning and trellising, learning the trade directly from his family. He day-dreamed about the day that he would make his own wine.

Joe's dream led him to study Viticulture and Enology at University of California, Davis. Post-graduation, he dove in. He interned at Gallo's research winery in Sonoma County, as well as Geyser Peak Winery. In addition, Joe worked a harvest in the Livermore growing region, and was a pest control advisor in Sonoma County.

All these experiences shaped Joe's passion for winemaking, and in 2008, he was hired by Purple Wine + Spirits to work at the Olivet facility in the Russian River Valley. In 2011, Joe was promoted to Assistant Winemaker followed by a much deserved promotion to Winemaker in 2013. His first vintage of Raeburn, the 2013, earned critical acclaim including a Best of Class/Gold medal at the Sonoma County Harvest Fair.

