

# The Sustainability Story of Vino del Sol

## Your Trusted Source for Sustainable Wine

### ABOUT US

At Vino Del Sol, our Company's Mission is to be Your Trusted Source for Great Wine; however, in order to accomplish this goal, we **MUST** also be **Your Trusted Source for Sustainable Wine**.

According to Vino del Sol's Founder and President, Matt Hedges, "Sustainability is the bedrock upon which we founded our company in 2004. We chose to work only with wineries that follow **Sustainable Practices**, are **Estate-Grown**, and **Family-Owned**; they are the 3 Pillars that form our foundation in Sustainability."

### ESTATE-GROWN

Wine begins in the vineyards, and we believe it is important for wineries to own and farm their own vines. This promotes the highest level of quality control in the vineyards. Farming the same vines in the same terroir year after year, gives a continuity to the wines' style. Estate vineyards also protect our customers from grape price fluctuations.



### SUSTAINABLY-FARMED

All wineries in the Vino del Sol portfolio are sustainably farmed. Our wines are created in an environmentally-conscious and socially-friendly way, and the vineyards can continue to produce grapes indefinitely. The wineries proudly invest in the long-term employment and care of their workers like **Tassajara** with over 20 employees with 20+ years of employment. **Zolo** and **Tapiz** achieved the Global G.A.P. (Good Agricultural Practice) certification and were awarded the Gold Medal for Sustainable Practices at the 2011 Great Wine Capitals Awards. **Gen5** and **Criss Cross** are certified green by Lodi Rules and use solar panels and renewable energy. Our wineries go the extra mile to protect the soil in a sustainable manner: **ZaHa** creates their compost out of the discarded grape skins and wine solids. **Altocedro** uses low intervention methods along with natural yeasts and is a gravity fed winery. **Lamadrid** uses high density plantings to naturally balance the cluster-per-vine production. **Tapiz** owns two certified organic vineyards and was awarded 2017 Gold Medal on sustainability from the Botanical Research Institute of Texas. The wineries utilize computer-controlled drip irrigation to further conserve water. **Wapisa** is a proud Partner in Conservation of the California Ocean Alliance. **Tassajara** (Scheid) won the 2019 California Green Medal Environment Award. **Taonga** is certified sustainable by Sustainable Winegrowing New Zealand. And **Obata Shuzo** is the winner of the 2020 Sataoyama Award for Sustainability in Japan.

All of our Argentine wines are vegan.



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### FAMILY-OWNED

The wine business is a long-term one. Decisions made in the vineyard today may not be reflected in the bottle for several years. Corporate management, usually focused on short-term earnings, is often not conducive to building sustainable wine brands. All Vino del Sol wineries are family-owned and operated, with a shared multi-generational vision for building and maintaining sustainable long-term business.

For example, **Gen5** is a joint-venture between **Vino del Sol** and the **LangeTwins winery**. The **Lange** family has been farming the same land in Lodi for five generations. The **Obata** family behind our Sakes is fifth generation.

Our newest wine, **Osmosis**, is made by the **Ortiz Family**, also owners of **Tapiz**, **Zolo**, and **Wapisa**.

**Vino del Sol** is proud to have worked with several of these winery families for over fifteen years.



### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

**Sustainability**, also means community social responsibility. Llamas graze on the vineyards of **Tapiz**, **Zolo** and **Osmosis**, and provide wool for local weavers as well as support local schools; **ZaHa** & **TeHo** fund local schools; **Tassajara** provides energy for local homes; **Altocedro** employs local workers and has an annual charity auction to benefit the area; **Obata Shuzo** employs and uses resources from the island. These are just some examples of our wineries giving back to the community.

**Sustainability**, means focusing on the long-term: in our relationships, our customers, wineries & vineyards, and our employees. Vino del Sol is proud to be working with many of the same wineries, customers, and employees since our founding in 2004. Not only is this all **personally rewarding**, but also **essential** for us to **over-deliver** to our customers and be their “**Trusted Source**.”

For more information on the Sustainable Wineries of  
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