



Patricia Ortiz | President & Owner | Fincas Patagónicas

Patricia Ortiz, President of Fincas Patagónicas, a company with three wineries located in key areas of Argentina: Tapiz in Uco Valley, Mendoza, Zolo in Lujan de Cuyo, Mendoza and Wapisa in Rio Negro, the only winery on the coast in Patagonia. She is an MD and Social Psychologist involved in the wine industry since 2003. Patricia was the first President of Bodegas de Argentina. In 2023, Patricia was nominated by Wine Enthusiast as "Executive of the Year".



Rumiko Obata | President | Obata Shuzo Brewery (Manotsuru)

Rumiko is the 5th generation of the Obata sake brewing family in Sado Island, Niigata, Japan. She is one of the very few women to run a sake brewery. Rumiko received her Master of Sake Tasting as bestowed by Nihon Kouson Kyoukai, the "Brewing Society of Japan." Obata Shuzo was awarded the Grand Prize in the Satoyama category which is given to the most sustainable, eco-friendly company.



GEN5



Susana Vasquez | Winemaker | Gen5 & Criss Cross

Hailing from Bolivia, Susy's winemaking career began with an interest in plant physiology – earning a degree from Universidad Mayor de San Simon. An impressive career began in California shortly after, rising to overseeing entire wine programs. Susy's favorite challenge is working with the natural product and understanding that the vineyards can deliver something different each year. To Susy, the perfect wine doesn't exist. Each wine presents its own unique challenge from vintage to vintage. Ultimately, the most important goal is to craft a wine that leaves the customer desiring a second glass.



GEN5



Marissa Lange | President & Owner | LangeTwins

Marissa is the 5th generation president of LangeTwins, where Gen5 & Criss Cross are produced. Her family had been growers in Lodi for four generations until she took the lead and turned the company into a large-scale operation, spanning thousands of acres of estate vineyards awarded for their ground-breaking sustainability. In 2023, Marissa was nominated by Wine Enthusiast as "Executive of the Year".



TASSAJARA

Heidi Scheid | Executive Vice President | Scheid Family Wines

Heidi, Wine Enthusiast's 2020 Wine Star "Person of the Year," has led Scheid Family Wines, where Tassajara is produced, to become one of the world's most sustainable wineries. The winery is 100% wind-powered and was awarded the California Green Medal Environmental Award. Heidi has long been a respected CA wine industry leader and is currently a Board Director of the Wine Market Council and served 2 years as its Chair.



LAMADRID

ESTATE WINES

Angelina Yañez | Winemaker | Lamadrid Winery

Angelina (Angie) joined Lamadrid in 2008 as a lab alyst. Angie steadily rose in position and responsibility and became part of the family, producing wines for Lamadrid since 2009, including fully organic projects. She has had experience in harvests abroad yet knows our Agrelo vineyards, their blocks and all the vessels in the winery like the back of her hand.



Las CARTAS

Deborah Witting | Winemaker | Ventisquero

Deborah studied agronomy with a focus on winemaking at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. She later completed a master's degree in winemaking and viticulture at the Universidad Politécnica in Madrid. Deborah has acquired substantial experience in winemaking both in Chile and abroad by participating in harvests in prestigious wine regions such as Bordeaux, Burgundy, Alsace and Languedoc-Roussillon in France.




ALTOCEDRO

Laura Olguín | Winemaking Operations Manager | Altocedro

Laura is the Assistant Winemaker at Altocedro. With several years of experience in projects focused on high-end wines, Laura is in charge of managing all the winemaking operations of the different projects at Karim Mussi Winemaker, including the two wineries in Mendoza and the satellite projects in Salta and Patagonia. Her meticulous attention to detail and her spirit of action are aspects that stand out and spread throughout her team.




ONTAÑÓN

FAMILIA



RIPPA DORII

EST. MMXI

QUEIRÓN

Raquel Pérez Cuevas | President & Owner | Ontañón, Queirón & Ripa Dorii

Raquel grew up on her family's vineyard land in the mountains of Rioja Oriental. She attended the Universidad de Pamplona, Navarra, where she graduated in 1997 with a major in Argicultural Engineering. As a part of a graduate program in Wine Management and Marketing her educational quest took her to study the wine industry in many countries around the world. She returned to Spain and her family's winery with a greater appreciation for the rich traditions of her own unique region.



Emily Gaspard Clark | Winemaker | Taonga

Emily's path to becoming an acclaimed winemaker was anything but conventional. Originally intent on pursuing food science, Emily was intrigued by the unique blend of science and craftsmanship that winemaking offered. Emily enrolled at Lincoln University and spent her summers immersing herself in the hands-on world of vineyards, working in various regions across New Zealand. These experiences fueled her love for the winemaking process, allowing her to engage in every step, from grape to glass.




RIVER FARM

Sanna Stander | Winemaker | River Farm

Sanna was born and educated in Stellenbosch, South Africa. She developed her skills in both South Africa and France before relocating to New Zealand in 2004. Currently, she is producing wines for River Farm and overseeing the wine program at a small, quality-focused winery in Marlborough called The Wine Studio. In addition to her professional responsibilities, she manages a busy life as a mother of two beautiful children.



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