



Garagiste

WINE CLUB

[gar-uh-zheest'] noun - A French term used to describe independent, artisan winemakers crafting small batches of wine in garage-type settings and not yet discovered by the mainstream.

AJA Vineyards

Owners: Todd, Heather, and Amanda Greenbaum

Winemakers: Steve Lemley and Nate Hasper

Location: Malibu Coast, California

Nestled in the serene beauty of the Santa Monica Mountains in Southern California, AJA Vineyards was established by Todd and Heather Greenbaum in 2011 with a passion and love for the art of wine. Inspired by and devoted to family, Todd and Heather named their winery 'AJA,' which is an acronym for the names of their three children - Alec, Jack, and Amanda - whom are their greatest treasures. When pronouncing 'AJA,' simply pronounce the 'J' the same way you would pronounce the 's' in the word 'treasure.'

The AJA story begins with Todd Greenbaum, whose mother and father, devoted wine enthusiasts, would travel the world tasting the finest wines from the best wine regions. They shared their admiration for wine with Todd, who became an avid wine collector in his adult life and enjoyed discovering some of the great, world-famous estates of Napa Valley (including Opus One, Pahlmeyer, and Joseph Phelps, to name a few). Todd wished to bring those styles of wines to the Malibu Coast, where he and his family have resided for over 45 years.

In 2007, Todd and his wife Heather planted their first Malibu Coast vineyard to Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah, and named the property Pamela's Vineyard after Todd's mother. This initial planting also sparked the interest of their oldest daughter, Amanda, who at the time was just 14 years old. Amanda discovered her passion for wine early, and would follow closely in her father's footsteps, helping to craft the best wines possible from the Malibu Coast.

By 2011, the Greenbaum family's vineyard was bearing fruit and the first vintage of AJA wines was created. They were on their way!

In the years since, the Greenbaum family has planted two additional vineyards, another on the Malibu Coast made up of Bordeaux-style varietals, and one in the Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara planted to Sauvignon Blanc. All of the wines are made in very limited quantities by veteran winemakers Steve Lemley and Nate Hasper, whose deep knowledge of modern techniques and almost fanatical approach in the cellar, has resulted in countless award-winning wines.

Today, the AJA winery operation has become a father-daughter duo with Amanda walking side-by-side with her father. After graduating from UCLA, Amanda studied wine at the International Culinary Center and became a Certified Sommelier; she interned with winemakers across the globe, and became an advocate for millennials in the wine and spirits industry. She is also a consulting winemaker for AJA Vineyards, and is devoted to not only growing her family's brand, but also to bringing awareness to the exceptional Malibu Coast AVA and the bright future this special location holds.

We are happy to share this under-the-radar family winery with you. Cheers!

AJA 2016 Syrah

150 cases produced

Malibu Coast, California

AJA Vineyards' flagship wine, the 2016 Syrah is compelling, rich, and wonderfully complex, produced from the family's Malibu Coast estate vineyard. On the nose, a floral bouquet is heightened by hints of blackberry, dark cherry, strawberry and vanilla with just a touch of black pepper in the background. Pleasant and well-structured tannins support the palate and lead into a long mocha finish. Aged 18 months in French oak. 84% Syrah, 16% Field Blend of Petit Verdot, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Malbec. Enjoy!

91 Points + Gold Medal - Orange County Wine Society Commercial Competition

Gold Medal Wine Club Price: \$34.99 / bottle

To order, visit the Wine Store at www.GoldMedalWineClub.com or call 1-800-266-8888

*2 bottle minimum per wine, per order. Shipping and tax (if applicable) not included. Call for details.

