

SMITH·MADRONE



SMITH-MADRONE VINEYARDS & WINERY FACT SHEET

LOCATION & COORDINATES: 4022 Spring Mountain Road, St. Helena, California 94574 phone 707/963-2283; fax 963-2291

FOUNDED: 1971, by Stuart Smith

MANAGEMENT: Stuart Smith, Managing Partner, Enologist; Charles F. Smith III, Wine-maker

VINEYARDS: All wines made entirely from the winery's own estate vineyards on steep mountainsides surrounding the winery on top of Spring Mountain in the Napa Valley

PRODUCTION: Approximate 1,000 cases each of Riesling, Chardonnay, and Cabernet Sauvignon

HOSPITALITY: Tours & tastings by appointment, always conducted by one of the Smith brothers; annual open house for mailing list customers

THE ESTATE: 200 acre ranch, partly planted as vineyard over a century ago; California black bears and other wildlife once thrived here; enormous 120-year-old olive trees frame a path and view over the floor of the Napa Valley and Bothe Napa Valley State Park.

THE NAME: Stuart Smith explains: "sounds better than Smith-Douglas Fir or Smith-Poison Oak (!), the predominant trees and shrubs on the ranch. The personality of the madrone figured into it as well: the madrone tree never stands out alone in the forest; it's always clustered for shade and community. Also called madrona, Pacific madrona, laurelwood or Oregon laurel, the madrone is an evergreen which can be low and shrubby, up to 40 feet tall, or tall and stately, up to 100 feet tall. The madrone is easily recognized by its red-brown trunk and branches; its leaves are a shiny deep green; in spring the tree bears lily-of-the-valley-like flower clusters; in fall orange-red berries appear on the trees. More about the madrone tree.