


# Legendary Ground

VENGE VINEYARDS & WINERY

# Andy Beckstoffer: Pioneering Architect of Napa Valley's Hallowed Ground

Before Napa Valley became a name spoken with reverence, before its greatest vineyards were measured in scarcity and myth, there was land—quiet, uncompromising, and waiting. Andy Beckstoffer understood this before almost anyone else.

He came west not chasing wine, but truth in farming. Trained at UC Davis and shaped in the vineyards of Beaulieu Vineyard under the tutelage of André Tchelistcheff, Beckstoffer learned a principle that would define his life's work: *great wine is not made—it is revealed*. The vineyard is not a component of greatness; it is its source.

In 1973, Beckstoffer began assembling what would become the most consequential vineyard portfolio in Napa Valley history. While others replanted freely or subdivided land, he looked backward—to sites that had already proven themselves across generations. Vineyards planted in the nineteenth century. Ground that had survived phylloxera, Prohibition, and neglect. Places that could not be duplicated, only preserved.

Georges III. To Kalon. Dr. Crane. Missouri Hopper. Las Piedras. These were not acquisitions—they were resurrections. Beckstoffer restored them with a farmer's discipline and a historian's restraint, trusting that the land already knew what it was capable of. His role was not to impose, but to reveal—to remove obstacles and allow each site to speak clearly once again.

His farming philosophy was uncompromising. Low yields. Meticulous attention. Site-specific decisions that favored longevity over excess. Beckstoffer never chased fashion. He chased permanence. And in doing so, he created vineyards that define Napa Valley's highest expression—fruit so complete, so structured, so intrinsically balanced that it sets the ceiling for what a wine can become.

For collectors, Beckstoffer's name is not branding—it is provenance. Fruit from his vineyards is finite, fiercely allocated, and intrinsically tied to wines built for decades, not moments. These are bottles that enter cellars as investments and emerge years later as revelations.

Yet Beckstoffer's most enduring legacy lies not in the wines themselves, but in what he protected. Through permanent land conservation easements, he ensured that Napa Valley's greatest vineyards would never be paved, subdivided, or forgotten. He did not simply farm legendary ground—he safeguarded it against time.

Andy Beckstoffer did not chase becoming legendary. He built it—row by row, site by site—so that Napa Valley's greatest vineyards would outlive us all. Every bottle born from his land is not merely a wine, but a continuation of something older and far rarer: an enduring lineage.

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**95 Points**, Decanter Magazine

"This Cabernet Sauvignon is ablend of Block C (Clone 6 from vines roughly 10 years old) and Block B (Clone 337, with vines entering their third decade). Aged for 27 months in 100% new French oak. Full bodied with Fabnulous intensity in the 2022 vintage, this wine offers rich, satiny dark-toned fruits layered with intense salted dark chocolate notes, all framed by a robust base of firm, structured tannins. The finish is fueled by all that opulent fruit, leaving a kiss of dusty mineral tension to round it out." Jonthan Cristaldi

**94-97 Points**—(Tasted as Barrel Sample), JebDunnuck.com

"Awesome levels of currants, tobacco, chocolate, and gravelly earth emerge from the 2022 Cabernet Sauvignon Beckstoffer Missouri Hopper Vineyard, a stunning, full-bodied, concentrated Cabernet that spent 27 months in all new French oak. Deep, rich, and layered on the palate, with beautiful texture and building tannins, this blockbuster needs 4-5 years of bottle age and will evolve gracefully for 15-20 years."

# 2022 BECKSTOFFER MISSOURI HOPPER VINEYARD

**CABERNET SAUVIGNON** | Oakville Napa Valley




**WAYPOINT** | Just north of Yountville in the heart of Oakville, Beckstoffer Missouri Hopper stands as one of Napa Valley's quietly legendary sites. Rooted in land once owned by George C. Yount, the valley's founding pioneer, the vineyard carries a lineage that reaches back to 1877, when Charles Hopper purchased the property and named it for his daughter, Missouri. The site's agricultural heritage predates modern Napa, having supported wine grapes alongside prunes and walnuts in the nineteenth century. In 1960, it became part of the historic Vine Hill Ranch under Bruce Kelham, before entering its modern era with Beckstoffer Vineyards' acquisition in 1996. Thoughtfully replanted and meticulously farmed, the vineyard was shaped to capture the full expression of its Oakville terroir. Today, Beckstoffer Missouri Hopper is planted to elite clones of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot, producing wines of depth, power, and unmistakable Oakville structure. Protected by a permanent land conservation easement since 2002, the vineyard remains dedicated solely to agriculture—preserved not only as a vineyard, but as a benchmark site for Napa Valley Cabernet.

**METHOD** | *Pellenc* Destemmed Into Open Top Fermenters and Concrete Diamond Tanks |100% Native Primary and Secondary Fermentation With Extended Macerations of 18 to 27 Days |100% Free Run Juice | Aging Regimen | 27 Months, 100% New 3-Year Air-Dried French Oak (Boutes, Sylvain, Taransaud T5, Gamba and Alain Foquet)

**WINEMAKER'S RECORD** | **This wine announces itself immediately** with a deep, luminous purple core that clings to the glass, signaling both power and precision. The aromatics are layered and compelling, unfolding with notes of clove, barrel vanillin, ripe black cherry, and cassis, each adding depth and intrigue. On the palate, the wine is expansive and commanding, filling every contour with concentrated fruit and finely grained tannins that lend both structure and elegance. The finish is exceptionally long and resonant, lingering for minutes and leaving a lasting impression of richness and balance. Seamless and complete, this is a wine crafted for those who seek intensity, pedigree, and longevity in equal measure. **275 Cases Produced**




## An Additional Winter Feature Not To Miss!

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Save 40% on All Orders of This Wine Now, Through January 31, 2026

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