



CATSPA W VINEYARD

KELSEY BENCH - LAKE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA



**Buz and Terry
Dereniuk**

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**CATSPA W
VINEYARDS**

Vineyard:

2181 Bell Hill Road
Kelseyville, California 95451

Catspaw Vineyard is owned by Buz and Terry Dereniuk. The Dereniuks embarked on a second career with the purchase of the vineyard in 2005. They are hands-on growers, and personally tend every vine in the vineyard. With guidance from Lars Crail of Yoxogoi Land Management and Jeff Gleaves, PCA and soils specialist, Buz and Terry decided to make the transition to organic farming. They have also adopted the sustainability model to assess the ecological, social, and financial impacts of their farming practices and look for ways to improve. Buz says that he sees sustainable farming and organic practices as the wave of the future, better for the land and produces fruit that is also good for the wine consumer.

Buz is a Board member of the Lake County Winegrape Commission and has been instrumental in the development of an organic growers group.

Soils

The Kelsey Bench forms an arc of rich red volcanic soils. The evolving watershed has eroded into fertile blocks of clay and loam soils of Big Valley resulting in swaths of gravel deposits and well drained soils.

The rich mineral content of the soils create an ideal environment for growing organic Merlot.

Weather

Catspaw Vineyard is located on Kelsey Bench, above the Big Valley and Clear

Lake. The unique microclimate of this location protects the vineyard from frost damage and results in late March bud break and harvest in early September. Warm days are moderated by the thermal mass of Clear Lake and afternoon breezes often results in 50 degree diurnal cycles. Cold winters and dry summers allow for low rates of pesticides and other applications. The dramatic temperature range contributes to the quality of winegrapes grown in the region by preserving acidity and slowing the ripening process.



**CATSPAW
VINEYARD
FACT SHEET:**

MERLOT	CLONES 3 AND 15
7-1/2 ACRES S ON VERTICAL TRELLIS	AVERAGE 26 BRIX
AVERAGING 4 TO 5 TONS PER ACRE	HARVEST IS USUALLY FIRST WEEK OF SEPTEMBER
OUR VINEYARD WILL BE CERTIFIED ORGANIC IN 2011	FAMILY OWNED AND SUSTAINABLY FARMED



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VINEYARDS**

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Catspaw Vineyard is located on the elevated slopes of the Mayacamas Mountains in Lake County, California

We are dedicated to sustainable farming practices allowing us to produce the finest mountain fruit possible. Our climate, soils and sunlight produce grapes and wine of compelling quality and character.

Family owned and farmed.

Elevation

Catspaw Vineyard sits at an elevation of 1400 feet above sea level. Higher Elevations and Lake County's pure air allow for greater levels of UV light, as much as 10% more than neighboring sea level valley.

Kelsey Bench

Originally a pyroclastic lava flow, the Bench is a transition between the volcanic mountains and the alluvial flood plain. Kelsey Bench has a mix of gravel, clay, and loam soils as a result of runoff over the millennia that eroded the Mayacamas volcanic foothills. The Bench sits at 1400 to 1600 feet elevation and has a largely northeastern exposure. Clean air combined with bright sunlight and cool nights produces premium winegrapes which has established Lake County as one of California's premiere wine regions.

Our Neighbors in the Big Valley and Kelsey Bench Appellation

The Big Valley and Kelsey Bench growers are well respected for their commitment to grape quality and modern growing technology. Growers from these regions were among the first visionaries to discover the region's winegrape potential and began planting vineyards in the 1960's.

All of these growers are leaders in developing and using sustainable wine growing methods, and Lake County currently has the second highest acreage that is farmed organically in California.

