

La Crema: buttery Chardonnays in a rustic winery

By Stacy Briscoe | Posted on 12/13/2016



Photo: Courtesy of La Crema

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Most casual wine consumers will be familiar with La Crema. Their rich, butter-forward **Chardonnays** are available at almost any grocery store. For years, La Crema tastings have been limited to their downtown Healdsburg tasting room location, squashed between the seemingly never-ending choices of the quaint town's urbanized version of Wine Country. But La Crema — owned by Jackson Family Wines — has now staked its claim on a piece of actual Wine Country history with the Saralee's Vineyard.

The barn-like structure, which dates back to the 1900s, was once, in fact, a barn filled with horses, hay and harvested crops. But, most notably, it is the former home of the late Saralee Kunde and her husband, Richard. When the family sold their property in 2012 to Jackson Family, the new owners immediately began a modernizing remodel which, as the new La Crema tasting room, mimics a countryside mansion. Walking in the door, you'll be immediately greeted with a glass of rosé and an emphasis that everything you taste here is unlike anything at the grocery store. To your right, you'll see a living room scene complete with a fireplace, overstuffed couches and lounging chairs. But the scene doesn't quite portray the image of comfy and cozy, as every corner seems to be filled with some kind of La Crema swag — from T-shirts to table decor.



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