

T U R N B U L L

PATRICK O'DELL

TURNBULL WINE CELLARS - PROPRIETOR AND VINTNER

As the owner of Turnbull Wine Cellars, Patrick O'Dell has been a quiet driving force behind the winery's success since 1993. A private person by nature, Patrick works behind the scenes with his handpicked team to guide the future of Turnbull, believing that at the end of the day, the true measure of a winery is the quality of its vineyards and the character of its wines. Building on this philosophy, Patrick has established one of Napa Valley's most acclaimed estate programs, featuring four renowned vineyards spanning more than 150 acres of vines.

A lifelong wine enthusiast, Patrick transitioned to the wine industry after a career in the newspaper business when he acquired the Leopoldina Vineyard in 1992. Patrick soon became friends with his neighbor, legendary vintner Gustav Dalla Valle, who encouraged Patrick to purchase a winery. In 1993, Patrick acquired the Johnson-Turnbull Winery and its historic 20-acre Home Ranch in Oakville from William Turnbull and Reverdy Johnson, and rechristened the winery Turnbull Wine Cellars. Recognizing the timeless value of Napa Valley vineyard land, Patrick also acquired the Fortuna Vineyard in Oakville that same year, and the Amoenus Vineyard in Calistoga in 1998.

Believing that exceptional wines come from extraordinary vineyards, Patrick has remained dedicated to exclusively making estate-grown wines. To coax the full potential from each vineyard, he has worked closely with Winemaker Peter Heitz and the winery's talented in-house vineyard team to institute the finest viticultural practices at Turnbull, including significant replantings. To spotlight the diversity and character of each vineyard, Patrick also believes in the importance of a small-lot winemaking, with Turnbull's team doing as many as 90 fermentations each vintage. As a result, Turnbull's Cabernet Sauvignons have emerged as some of Napa Valley's most exquisite wines, garnering praise for their structure, sophistication and terroir-driven character.

"Our team has worked together, and with our vineyards, for a very long time," says Patrick. "They know the character of each block and every vine row, and they understand the commitment it takes to make extraordinary wines. Everything else follows from that."