



The idea for Rocca Family Vineyards began in 1999, when proprietors Drs. Mary Rocca and Eric Grigsby dreamed of leaving their medical careers in Minnesota to return to California and the land they loved so much. A three-year search for the perfect vineyard finally yielded results: a 21-acre vineyard nestled deep in the heart of the Napa Valley,



mary rocca and eric grigsby

where the pair had made their home for over a decade. After renaming the new parcel The Grigsby Vineyard, Mary devoted her full attention to the new project, while Eric continued to cultivate a career as one of the nation's most respected pain management physicians.

Mary called upon renowned winemaker Celia Welch Masyczek to produce the label's first vintages. The debut bottling was the 1999 Syrah, a varietal that to this day garners praise and awards for the Rocca family. But Rocca really got on the map when its 2002 Grigsby Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon came in #1 in a blind tasting of 12 *Rising Star Cabernets* at the Vintners Club tasting in both the U.S. and France. Since then, Rocca wines have been winning both media and public acclaim with each successive vintage.

In 2000, Mary purchased the 11-acre Collinetta Vineyard, planted on a small hill in the Coombsville Appellation, a mile east of downtown Napa. These two vineyards produce some of the Valley's finest wine grapes, and in turn, some of the Valley's finest wines. In 2008, Celia passed the winemaking baton to Paul Colantuoni, who has continued to produce world-class wines under the Rocca label. Currently, Rocca produces about 2,000 cases annually of their highly-acclaimed Estate Cabernets, Merlot, Syrah and *Vespera* Proprietary Red Blend.

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