

# MERRYVALE

EST. 1983



## THE SCHLATTER FAMILY



*The Schlatter Family in 2019 - from left: Jade, René, Corinna, Laurence & Jenna*

At the helm of Merryvale since 1996, the Schlatter Family has established deep roots in the Napa Valley in their quest to make wines that represent the best of every harvest. They have cultivated long-term partnerships with some of the best wine grape growers from Calistoga to Carneros and developed two estate vineyards: the 25-acre Profile Estate Vineyard on an eastern ridgetop overlooking St. Helena—ideal for Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot; and the 40-acre Stanly Ranch Estate Vineyard in Carneros perfect for Chardonnay and Pinot Noir.

A native of Switzerland, family patriarch Jack Schlatter's lifelong love of wine drew him to the Napa Valley in 1991. "*Napa Valley's diversity of soils and microclimates allows us to grow high quality Chardonnay and Pinot Noir just a few miles from Cabernet Sauvignon. There's no other place in the world like it,*" says Jack. Merryvale Vineyards offered the quintessential St. Helena location with its

historic winery building, the first to be built following the Repeal of Prohibition, and its prime location on Highway 29. If you ask Jack about his background as a cotton classer in Mexico, coffee taster in Brazil, or any of his other fascinating experiences and he'll quickly steer the conversation back to the wines of Merryvale Vineyards. As Jack's son René reflects, *"Jack wanted to find a way to integrate one of his passions—skiing, sailing or wine—into a thriving business, and the rest is history."*



*René Schlatter and his father Jack Schlatter.*

René Schlatter upholds his family's integrity in his role as President and CEO. Having worked his way up the Merryvale ladder the old-fashioned way, he has held progressively more responsible positions since joining the company in 1995. Born in Switzerland, René has lived in the U.S. since 1987 and earned his MBA from ASU's Thunderbird School of Global Management in Phoenix. As President, René oversees all aspects of the business on a daily basis, from grower relations to sales management.

Active in the community and with their three daughters, René's wife Laurence focuses on the guest experience at Merryvale. She works with the hospitality team to offer inventive and entertaining events and manages all of the social media interaction for the family of wine brands. Her eye for design and interesting local artisans keeps things fresh for visitors and guests. That Laurence's family has owned a winery in Switzerland for six generations provides a special sense of tradition. *"It's very rewarding to continue this family heritage at Merryvale,"* says Laurence.

For nearly three decades, the Schlatter Family's dedication to quality has propelled Merryvale forward, producing an unparalleled Bordeaux-focused portfolio of complex, balanced and classic wines that are truly reflective of the region's terroir. Employing sustainable farming practices in the estate vineyards and superior standards at the winery ensures that the wines live up to their full potential. Both the winery and estate vineyards are Napa Green Certified supporting the Schlatter Family's commitment to the environment and to future generations.