

NICOLAS MORLET
WINEMAKING CONSULTANT



Nicolas Morlet is a renowned winemaker specializing in Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Cabernet Sauvignon. His wines are internationally the gold standard of the wine industry. At the time of this writing, he has achieved more perfect and near-perfect scores from the world's most respected critics, across these noble grape varieties than any other winemaker.

He began his career in France, where he was the chief winemaker for his family's heritage vineyard in Champagne. He was also mentored in Burgundy at maison Chanson père et fils and in Bordeaux at château Lascombes (2nd Growth).

In 2005, Mr. Morlet moved to the United States. After a short stint at Joseph Phelps, he was appointed as winemaker for Peter Michael Winery. He inherited wines with scores in the mid-90's, and within a few years grew the brand into a world-recognized portfolio of Grand Crus and First Growths with numerous 99 and 100 point scores earned. Capturing the essence of the Terroir, he creates elegant, complex wines exhibiting seamless texture, intense aromas, and a remarkable ability to age gracefully.

After working in this role for 15 years, he is now offering his expertise as consultant winemaker to a few exclusive 'Grand Crus' aspiring wineries.

Mr. Morlet is an expert in world-class vineyard research and establishment. His extensive knowledge of French and American viticulture and enology, matched with his unparalleled drive for perfection will bring a unique advantage to your label in the competitive luxury wine market.

EDUCATION:

- Certification, Master Court of Sommelier, USA, 2019
- Masters degree of Science in Viticulture & Enology (Diplome National d'Oenologue) from University of Burgundy, Dijon, Institute Jules Guyot 2003-2005. Graduated with distinctive honors.
- Academic thesis completed at Chateau Lascombes in Margaux, Bordeaux 2nd Growth, covering two vintages 2003 & 2004 titled: 'The Physico-chemical and Organoleptic Influences of the In-Barrel Fermentation and Maceration Technique with Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot.'
- Curriculum in Biology, Ecology, Geology, Pedology, Agronomy, Chemistry, Biochemistry from University of Reims, Champagne 2002
- Sommelier & Maitre d'H certification from French Navy, 1995
- Bachelors of Science degree in Viticulture, Enology and Wine and Spirit trade from Lycee viticole de Beaune, Burgundy 1992-1994. Graduated with distinctive honors.
- Four-year study focused on Sciences: Biology, Viticulture & Enology in Lycee Viticole d'Avize, Champagne, 1988-1992
- Pruning certification in Champagne in all pruning systems, 1990

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Vineyard developments:**
 - In 2015, he planted 7 acres of higher quality Cabernet Sauvignon in Oakville, Napa Valley, which made a significant improvement to the related blend.
 - He restructured 20 acres of Chardonnay vineyards in 2007 by grafting over multiple plots with higher quality Chardonnay clonal material.
 - In 2006, Morlet planted 30 acres of Pinot Noir grapes in Sonoma Coast, Fort Ross-Seaview AVA for Peter Michael Winery. Later in the fifth year after planting (2010 vintage), two wines received a perfect score of 100 points by the Robert Parker-Wine Advocate.

- **Winery image & Marketing:**
 - Public presenter for Peter Michael Winery at:
 - The charity events for the Peter Michael Foundation (14 years)
 - The Wine Experience in New York, 2016: presented Au Paradis 2012, which was awarded the top wine out of the best 100 wines
 - The Metropolitan Club, Washington D.C. in 2015
 - The Matter of Taste with moderator Robert Parker in Hong Kong, 2011
 - The Wine Experience in Las Vegas, 2010: presented Les Pavots 2007, which was awarded of one of the top 10 best Cabernet Sauvignons of California
 - The 22nd annual Great Wine Seminar in Florida, 2007 with moderator Serena Sutcliffe, MW (Head of Sotheby's wine)
 - Pebble Beach VIP seminars focusing on the Peter Michael Winery verticals of multiple vintages and labels in 2007
 - Organizer and public presenter at the Entourage of Peter Michael Winery (13 years), the Winery Sommelier Summit (13 years), the Master Sommeliers and the Masters of Wine in New York or on-site at the Winery
 - Vintner guest of honor and public presenter at the Bocuse d'Or, Team USA in Pebble beach, Black Tie dinner, 2016
 - Marketing trips for luncheons and dinners to introduce new released wine to Distributors, Sommeliers and Wine Directors in New York, Boston, and Los Angeles
 - Honorary Chairman of California Winemaster Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (2 years)
 - Annual visits and presentation of the new wine offerings from the Peter Michael Winery portfolio to the best tables in the USA and Worldwide (two and three Michelin star restaurants)
 - Produced consistently high quality wines with unique Terroir expression features and a limited production. These wines are highly allocated to the members of the Winery and the finest restaurants

- **Leadership:**

- As Winemaker and production manager, he led and coached the entire production department with assertive and inspiring manners
- In 15 years, created 6 new labels for Peter Michael Winery
- In 2011 transitioned three Chardonnay labels from contracted fruits to 100% Estate fruits
- Developed detailed procedures, created, and led the team to resolve particular issues faced by the Winery during challenging vintages
- Organized winemaker dinners in collaboration with multiple venues including five-star hotels and ‘Relais & Chateaux’

- **Entrepreneurship:**

- In 2009, after three years of research, Morlet identified a world-class vineyard in Oakville, Napa Valley (next to Dalla Valle and above Streaming Eagle vineyards) for the Michael family completing the portfolio of the winery. On the second release of this wine, the 2012 ‘Au Paradis’ was elected ‘Wine of the Year’ by Wine Spectator.

AWARDS:

- 100 points earned from Robert Parker-Wine Advocate for 10 wines
- 100 points earned from Jeb Dunnuck for 2 wines
- 113 wines scored between 97 and 99 points
- Best wine of the USA by James Suckling in 2020 with Peter Michael Winery ‘Belle Cote 2017’, Chardonnay, 99 points
- Wine of the Year, top wine out of the best 100 wines of 2015 by Wine Spectator with Peter Michael Winery, ‘Au Paradis 2012’ Cabernet Sauvignon, 96 points
- Best wine of the USA by James Suckling in 2014 with Peter Michael Winery ‘Le Caprice 2012’, Pinot Noir, 98 points
- Best California Chardonnay of the 2012 vintage by Wine Spectator with Peter Michael Winery ‘Point Rouge 2012’, Chardonnay, 97 points
- #3 out of the best 100 wines of 2010 by Wine Spectator with Peter Michael Winery, ‘Ma Belle-Fille 2008’ Chardonnay, 97 points
- Best California Cabernet Sauvignon of the 2008 vintage by Wine Spectator with Peter Michael Winery ‘Les Pavots 2008’, 98 points
- Multiple labels featured in the Robb Report & The New York Times magazines