

With a family history of winemaking that dates back to 1870, it was perhaps not surprising that Marimar Torres, sister of the legendary Miguel A Torres, would continue the family's legacy of producing exceptional wines. So after accompanying her father, Don Miguel Torres, on a number of business trips to the USA in the 1970's she settled in San Francisco in 1975 with the ambition of establishing her own winery.

perfect property to plant a vineyard, and – after two years of searching – she bought 25 hectares of land in Sonoma County, close to the town of Sebastopol in the Russian River Valley appellation, an area which arguably produces the finest Pinot Noir in all of California. After writing her first book, "The Spanish Table" in 1986, she planted her vineyard, initially with Chardonnay and then in 1988 with Pinot Noir – naming the vineyard 'Don Miguel' after her father.

In 1981 she started the search for the

a perfect microclimate for growing Chardonnay and Pinot Noir.

Building on the success of her first enterprise Marimar then decided to buy a magnificent new 180-acre property in the Sonoma Coast appellation, naming the vineyard 'Dona Margarita' in honour of her mother. Only 20 acres are planted, all of which are Pinot Noir. The rest of the estate is a dedicated conservation area which is protected from any future development so that wildlife can thrive. Species include groves of redwood,

IMAGES This page – Left – Cristina Pinot Noir, the icon wine of Marimar Estate. Right – Marimar Torres in her home at Sitges, Spain. Opposite page – Marimar Estate winery, in the Russian River Valley.





I benefit from a collective experience of 135 years of winemaking and my education continues to this day...

Today the Don Miguel Vineyard encompasses 50 planted acres. About 20 are planted with Chardonnay, 20 with Pinot Noir, five with Albariño, five with Tempranillo, two with Syrah and one with an experimental block of Godello.

The Green Valley, one of Sonoma County's coolest growing regions with its proximity to the Pacific Ocean, provides an excellent growing season, allowing the grapes to develop slowly to full intensity. Nestled in the rolling hills of Western Sonoma County, the Russian River Valley appellation has

fir, oak, madrone, pine and bay. The estate has hundreds of redwoods set amidst wild forest that are protected and will therefore remain untouched. The vineyard borders these trees and has been laid out with ecological sensitivity.

Combining this ecological approach with her European wine making heritage, Marimar has sought to ensure that all of her wines are made entirely from estate grown grapes, providing a true expression of this unique terroir.

The first release, 1989 barrelfermented Chardonnay, debuted in April 1991 to great acclaim. In 1992, a 15,000 case winery was built and the estate's first Pinot Noir was produced.

As a passionate believer in the environment, Marimar has employed sustainable practices in her vineyards and the winery. The property is 100% solar powered and she has taken her environmental commitment further by developing biodynamic farming methods across her entire estate.

Ecological farming methods have been employed across all of the vineyards since 2003 and the estate was granted full organic certification in 2006. Since then the estate has evolved and now employs a completely sustainable method of viticulture which regards the property as one single ecosystem.

Sonoma County, in California, has started an initiative to become the first 100% sustainable winegrowing region in the United States. Marimar Estate, signed on to the SCW's (Sonoma County Winegrowers) statement of principles and received its certificate in 2017. This certificate is based on practices that ensure the sustainability of the land and building a sense of community with neighbours, seeking a balance that respects both the natural and social environment in which the work takes place.

IMAGES This page – Bottom left – Marimar Torres hosting one of her 'club' events – Top right – Marimar and her dog Chico at the Don Miguel Vineyard. Bottom right – Marimar Estate winery.

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Sustainable viticulture draws on production methods that, through the use of water, soil and natural resources, make it possible to meet the needs of producers and consumers without compromising or destroying the basic natural resources that will be necessary for future generations. The model is built on economic efficacy, social fairness and ecological sustainability. At Marimar Estate, the commitment to the environment has increased continuously over almost two decades. The entire winery and the two houses on the property are 100% solar-powered; waste is recycled creating its own compost for fertilizing the vineyard; cover

crops provide an ideal habitat for beneficial insects, natural predators of harmful pests; chickens are bred to increase biodiversity; boxes for owls are nestled in the vineyard and beehives have been established, as the ecological role of bees has a positive influence on the sexual reproduction of plants. In addition to this, the people involved in these processes are also highly valued.

Family pride and integrity have enabled Marimar Torres to blend centuries-old traditions with the latest innovations to produce outstanding wines known the world over. Marimar herself has become a symbol of this heritage.

IMAGES This page – Above – Marimar and her daughter Cristina, with their dogs Chico and Bonita. Bottles – Marimar Albariño, Marimar La Masia Chardonnay and Marimar Mas Cavalls Pinot Noir.