

ODED SHAKKED – OWNER & WINEMAKER

Born in Israel to a family of German and Czech origins, Oded grew up absorbing a multitude of cultures. As a child, he spent two years in South America (Uruguay) and a year in France. By the age of 12 years he spoke Hebrew, Spanish and French fluently, later adding English to the mix.

Following his three years of mandatory military service in the IDF, Oded built surfboards for a living while taking numerous surf trips to the Atlantic coast of Europe (France, Spain and Portugal). These trips and a family friend exposed him to grape growing and winemaking and eventually led him to enroll in the winemaking program at UC Davis, California, graduating with a BSc in Fermentation Science in 1988.

Oded interned at Domain Chandon in Napa and with Chateau Lafite-Rothschild in Bordeaux before accepting a position at Jordan Vineyards and Winery in Healdsburg (Sonoma County). In 1990, he became head winemaker for “J Vineyards & Winery” where he stayed for eighteen years, developing their sparkling wine, Pinot Noir and Pinot Gris programs.

Oded established Longboard Vineyards in 1998, specializing in the production of premium wines mainly from the Russian River Valley appellation, he owns and lives on a vineyard on Westside Road just outside Healdsburg, where he grows Merlot, Malbec, Syrah and a few rows of other red varieties that go into the “DAKINE” Syrah blend.

Oded takes great pride in being a family man, a farmer, a scientist, an artist and an (old) surfer and loves to put his “Sabra” can-do attitude to good use when consulting with other wineries around the globe.

