

Tony LeBlanc
General Manager
Silver Oak & Twomey Cellars



After 32 years in the wine business, Tony LeBlanc still gets excited each year when harvest rolls around. “It’s the time of year you come face-to-face with Mother Nature,” says Tony. “The rest of the year, the environment is fairly controlled, but at harvest, you’re at her mercy.”

As General Manager, Tony oversees all Silver Oak and Twomey facilities and has spent his career building “controlled” environments. He joined Silver Oak in 1992 when Ray Duncan and Justin Meyer purchased the Geyserville winery, which had gone bankrupt under its previous owners. As a carpenter, Tony had helped build that winery and started working in the cellar during the 1982 harvest. “I had to learn quickly about winemaking that first year,” he says. “But I loved it, and knew that’s what I wanted to do with my career.”

When Ray and Justin bought the winery, they brought Tony on, and he spent the next several years “taking it from an abandoned, stripped down winery to a Silver Oak facility.” He worked closely with Justin, who quickly became a mentor to him. “Justin was a hard working, level headed, no nonsense guy,” says Tony. “But he had an extremely generous nature, and always supported the people who worked for him.”

In 1999 when the Duncan family purchased the winery in Calistoga that became the home of Twomey Cellars, Tony, who had performed due diligence on the property, was promoted to Chief Operating Officer. By that time he had also assumed responsibility for the Oakville winery. In 2005, Tony helped oversee the acquisition of what is now the Twomey Healdsburg winery, and led its renovation into a Pinot Noir facility. With four facilities to oversee, Tony was promoted to General Manager and today he leads the winemaking, vineyard, retail and hospitality teams.

In 2006, Tony met the opportunity – and challenge – of a lifetime. Silver Oak’s facility in Oakville had suffered a terrible fire, and rather than try to “patch it up,” the Duncan family decided to build a new winery from the ground up. Tony was the point person on the construction of Silver Oak’s new Oakville winery, which received its first grapes in September of 2008.

Now, with the Duncan’s purchase of a new 115-acre property in 2012, Tony is again immersed in the design and construction of a new Silver Oak winery, this time for the Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon. “With everything we learned constructing the Oakville winery, we know that a new facility will have a positive impact on wine quality,” says Tony. “We also plan to build the most environmentally respectful wine production facility in the world, and we’re excited to take a leadership role in green building for wineries.”

Tony lives in Santa Rosa with his wife, Pamela, with whom he has two adult children, Daniel and Kelsey. Tony earned his degree in economics from the University of San Francisco in 2001.

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