BEST WINERIES



Jean-Charles Boisset Acquires Artesa Estate and Winery in Napa
By Artesa Estate and Winery Team

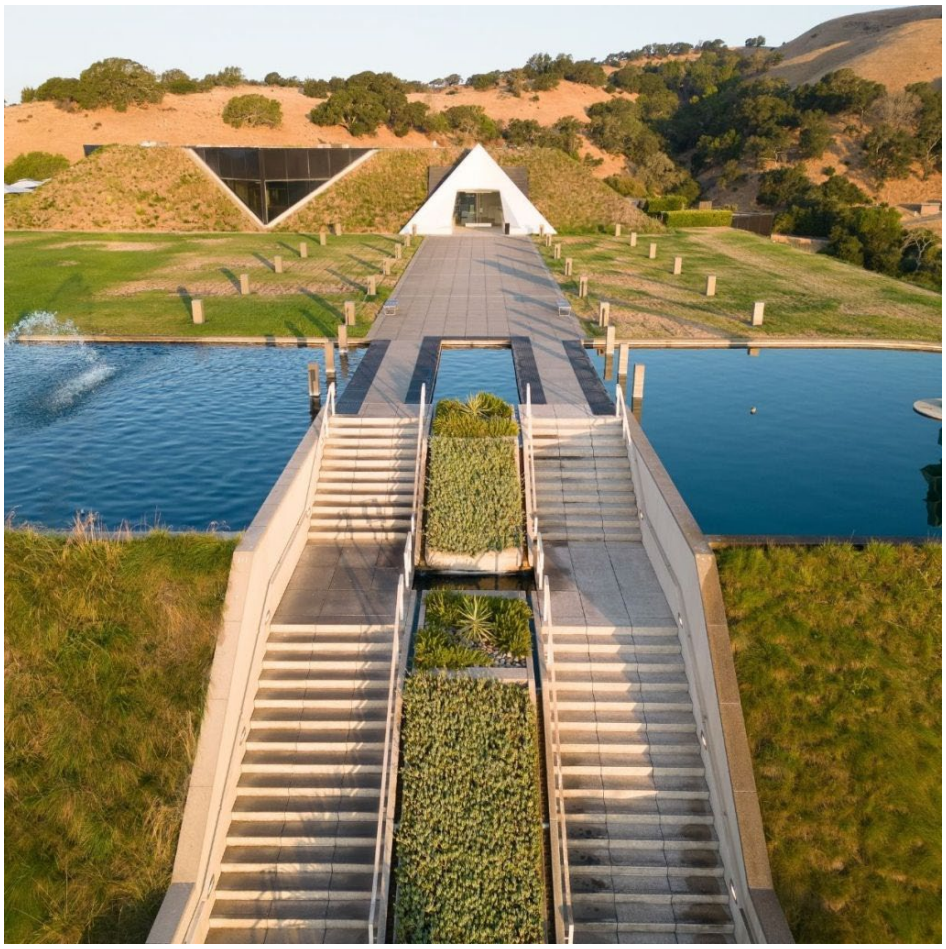
The extraordinary 350-acre estate opens a new chapter devoted to exceptional wines, the art world, and the alchemy of the senses.

Jean-Charles Boisset announces the acquisition of Artesa Estate and Winery from Raventós Codorníu, Spain's oldest winemaking company, with origins dating to 1551. The passing of the reins brings together a distinguished wine heritage and Boisset's profound belief in California, marking a new chapter for an extraordinary estate where terroir, architecture and landscape converge.

With its hillside vineyards, distinctive pyramid-shaped architecture and winery conceived around gravity-flow winemaking, the 350-acre property will become the setting for a deeply personal ambition: to pursue exceptional wines while nurturing a destination for the art world at large and the awakening of all the senses.

The acquisition expresses Boisset's enduring confidence in Napa Valley at a moment of change across the wine industry.

"Such moments ask something of us: the courage to examine our assumptions, the curiosity to explore unfamiliar possibilities, and the conviction to create," said Boisset. "My belief in wine, in America and in California is stronger than ever. Wine carries the memory of landscapes, the intelligence of generations and the intimacy of human exchange. Its future deserves all the imagination we can bring to it."



Stairways to entrance.



The bright, modern tasting room at Artesa Estate and Winery.

Situated in a cooler-climate enclave at Napa Valley's southern gateway, Artesa Estate combines the maritime influence of San Pablo Bay with varied hillside soils and exposures. Boisset sees extraordinary potential for Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and sparkling wines, alongside opportunities to explore distinctive cooler-climate expressions of Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc, as well as Albarino and Tempranillo. The estate's 350 acres includes 155 planted acres in Los Carneros Napa and Mt. Veeder.



A modern sculpture and reflecting pool set against the rolling hillside vineyards.

The winery's thoughtful conception and integration into the hillside unite architectural beauty with the exacting demands of fine winemaking.

"My conviction begins with the land," Boisset said. "The soils, the light, the maritime air, the individuality of the slopes—there is an extraordinary alchemy of terroir. My Burgundian sensibility responds instinctively to the possibilities for nuance, freshness, depth and finesse. I want to explore what this estate can reveal, vintage after vintage."



Artesa's distinctive pyramid-shaped architecture and portal built directly into the Napa hillside.

That connection reaches back to his childhood in Vougeot, among the grand cru vineyards of Burgundy's Côte de Nuits.

"Burgundy taught me to pay attention: to the character of the earth, to the rhythm of the seasons, to the subtle differences that give a wine its identity. Here, in Napa Valley, I feel that same profound belonging. This is my other heart—the continuum of who I am and what I believe in.

"France gave me an intimacy with the past; America awakened my affinity for the possible. Their encounter is my bicultural DNA. At Artesa Estate, those two dimensions of my life find an extraordinary home."

Carrying a pioneering vision forward

Established as Codorníu Napa in 1991, Artesa Estate and Winery was conceived with the ambition of producing exceptional California sparkling wine. Its founders brought a heritage reaching back to the sixteenth century and a vision that united winemaking, architectural innovation and sensitivity to the landscape.



Elegant lounge seating area.

Boisset intends to carry that ambition forward through renewed emphasis on sparkling wine and continued exploration of the estate's still-wine potential.

"The vision that brought Codorníu here speaks directly to me," he said. "They recognized the promise of this land and gave it a remarkable architectural expression. To carry that inheritance forward is an honor and a responsibility. I feel deep respect for what they created and for the people whose dedication has given this estate its life."

As above, so below

The estate's pyramid-shaped architecture, reflecting water and panoramic setting hold a particular fascination for Boisset. Views across vineyards and surrounding mountains toward the East Bay and San

Francisco form what he describes as “a natural amphitheater at the gateway to Napa Valley—a true 360-degree invitation to imagine the future.”

“I have long been captivated by this place,” Boisset said. “There is a je ne sais quoi here that reaches beyond beauty. The landscape has a rhythm. The architecture gives it resonance. I experience an energy, a vibration, a frequency that answers something deep within me—as though this place had been conceived for the dreams I carry.

“As above, so below. The pyramid draws the eye toward the sky while the wines evolve within the hillside. Roots and light, earth and imagination seem to meet at its apex. I have never felt that connection with such intensity. I feel transported into another dimension, yet profoundly connected to the earth.”



A destination for the art world and all the senses
Drawing on the philosophy of his book, The Alchemy of the Senses, Boisset envisions Artesa Estate as a place of encounter for artists, collectors, thinkers and curious guests. Wine will remain its heart, with artistic expression and sensory experiences offering new ways to discover the estate and its terroir.

This vision reflects his belief in opening the world of wine to new audiences through meaningful connections with culture and nature.

“I can imagine people arriving through their love of art, their curiosity about nature or their fascination with architecture—and discovering, through wine, a deeper connection to all three,” he said. “We must welcome new generations with openness, generosity and a sense of wonder.



A warm, sunlit perspective down the tasting bar showcasing contemporary seating and vibrant artwork lining the gallery wall.

“I envision a place where the extraordinary presence of nature awakens something profound within us, where the rhythm of the landscape invites contemplation and gives the imagination room to soar. A place where a wine reveals the vineyard, an artwork changes our perspective, and a shared experience becomes a cherished memory. Here, the alchemy of the senses becomes a living experience.”

Further details of Artesa Estate’s wine offerings, artistic initiatives and guest experiences will be shared as its next chapter develops.



Artesa’s sun-dappled outdoor patio set for an elevated tasting experience.

A commitment measured in generations

“For all its extraordinary achievements, I believe Napa Valley is still at the beginning of what it can become,” Boisset said. “There are expressions of this land still to discover, emotions still to awaken and possibilities we have scarcely imagined. I feel an immense energy to participate—to help design its future and draw the map that does not yet exist.

“I am committing myself to Artesa Estate with the perspective of vintages and generations. I feel more drawn to California, more curious about the future of wine and more energized to build here than ever.”



Jean-Charles Boisset holding a glass of wine, marking a new chapter for the historic Artesa Estate and Winery in Napa.

For Boisset, the commitment carries particular meaning during America’s 250th anniversary. “From the pioneers of the Gold Rush to the innovators of Silicon Valley, California has inspired people to give form to possibilities others could scarcely imagine. As a citizen of the world with deep Franco-American roots, I feel that calling profoundly. This is an expression of love for America, for California and for the Napa Valley that has become part of my soul—and of my desire to contribute something enduring.

“The future asks us to imagine it—and then to give it roots.”

Bestwineries.com was founded by **Jennifer Boden,** who grew up in beautiful Sonoma County. She’s also a travel writer for **Haute Living San Francisco magazine**, video producer and former TV news anchor.