

WINE ENTHUSIAST

Raymond Vineyards Buys 55-Acre Bartolucci-Stice Vineyard in St. Helena

Deal means Jean-Charles Boisset's Napa Valley empire grows to 380 acres.

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Raymond Vineyards and **Boisset Collection** bought the 55-acre **Bartolucci Vineyard** off of Stice Lane in St. Helena. The vineyard is adjacent to Raymond's **Stice Vineyard** and has 47 acres planted to Cabernet Sauvignon, Sauvignon Blanc, Petit Verdot, Cabernet Franc and Merlot.

Following the philosophy of all of Boisset's Napa vineyards, the Bartolucci vineyard will be converted to certified Napa Green, certified organic and certified Biodynamic[®] farming. A spokesman said the conversion is expected to take two years and would begin after this year's harvest.

"We believe in Napa Valley, and we believe in the importance of a long-term vision of making fine wines with a deep commitment and respect to the most prestigious and high-quality terroir," said Jean-Charles Boisset, Raymond's owner.

Spokesman Patrick Egan said in an email that Boisset had been interested in the family owned property for quite some time.

The Bartolucci family has been farming in Napa Valley for four generations, starting in the 1920s, while Raymond celebrates a five-generation family legacy of winemaking dating to the earliest foundations of the Napa Valley. The Bartolucci-Stice vineyard was originally planted in 1976, just two years after the first harvest of Raymond Vineyards in 1974.

Financial terms were not disclosed.