



# ROBERT YOUNG

E S T A T E W I N E R Y

## THE YOUNG FAMILY LEGACY

Four Generations Deeply Rooted in the Alexander Valley

*One of the first families to settle in the Alexander Valley, the Young family and the land are inseparable – the land is their life; it is part of them.*

**F**our generations of the Young family have farmed the same estate in California's Alexander Valley since 1858. While some generations farmed wheat, others prunes, and then wine grapes – all share the belief that a farmer's footprints are the best fertilizer. This closeness to the land and dedication to its preservation are reflected in the quality of Robert Young Estate wines.

The family tradition of growing for quality began with Robert Young's grandfather, Peter Young, the first of the Young family to emigrate from upstate New York to California. He came for the Gold Rush and settled on a 206-acre ranch southeast of Geyserville.

A pioneer of the Alexander Valley, Peter Young planted grains and prunes and ran cattle on his land. Peter's three sons, Warner, Maynard and Robert's father, Silas, continued the prosperous family business and developed prunes as the principal crop.

Robert Young inherited the pioneering spirit and passion for innovation that defined his forefathers. Recognizing the potential of California's emerging wine industry, Robert and his first wife, Gertrude, established Robert Young Vineyards in 1963, and gradually converted the prune orchard to vineyards.

Today, the evolution continues through the scions of Robert Young: JoAnn, Susan, Jim and Fred. Believing their legacy is to preserve the family land, while upholding their father's commitment to excellence, the four siblings established Robert Young Estate Winery in 1997.

### **The Young Family Legacy**

“As our family grew, we wanted to find new ways to extend our reach in the Alexander Valley wine industry, so that our children and grandchildren could be proud of their heritage and join in the family business,” said JoAnn Young, the eldest child of Robert Young. “The creation of the winery is a result of Dad’s years of hard work. Dad is the rootstock – the foundation for our new growth.”

Winemaking at the Robert Young Estate primarily focuses on two premium wines. The 1999 Robert Young Estate Chardonnay was the premier release from Robert Young Estate Winery. The 1997 Bordeaux-style wine, Scion, followed. The name Scion reflects the heritage of Robert Young’s children. As the fourth generation, their roots to the Alexander Valley property run deep.

Farming is more than a business for the Young family – it is a way of life and has been through the turn of two centuries.