

DANIEL PAMBIANCHI & MUSTO WINE GRAPE SEMINAR

MAKING CONSISTENTLY FLAWLESS WINES by Daniel Pambianchi

OBJECTIVES

To learn advanced home winemaking techniques, including advanced analytical techniques for measuring and adjusting key quality control parameters, and to integrate these learnings in reviewing detailed protocols for making outstanding white, rosé and red wines and in different styles.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Intermediate and advanced amateur and small-winery winemakers

LOCATION, DATE AND TIME

Musto Wine Grape Co., Hartford, CT
Saturday, September 10, 2022
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

COST

\$275 per person until August 10th

\$300 per person until September 10th

(includes seminar binder, coffee and lunch)

OUTLINE

MODULE 1: TRANSFORMATION OF GRAPES AND JUICE INTO WINE

This module describes the main constituents of grapes and grape juice and their transformations into wine to set the context for the various winemaking processes, treatments and analytical tests presented in this seminar.

MODULE 2: MANAGING SUGAR AND ALCOHOL

This module describes the relationships among fermentable sugars, alcohol and residual sugars, and how to measure or estimate each. It also describes how to chaptalize (to add sugar) or ameliorate juice, including required calculations, to raise or lower the desired alcohol level, respectively.

MODULE 3: MANAGING ACIDITY AND PH

This module describes the major acids in grapes and their transformations during winemaking, including the chemistry of potassium bitartrate, how to measure total acidity and pH, and how make adjustments, including required calculations, to either increase or lower acidity or pH. Case studies are used to

illustrate the more challenging scenarios, such as making adjustments in high-acidity and high-pH juice.

MODULE 4: MANAGING SULFUR DIOXIDE (SO₂)

This module describes the chemistry of sulfite and SO₂ in wine, how to expertly measure and adjust free and total SO₂ levels, including how to account for binding from, for example, acetaldehyde, and for dissolved oxygen (DO) arising from winemaking processes. This module also discusses alternative strategies for reducing the use of sulfite.

MODULE 5: CONDUCTING THE ALCOHOLIC FERMENTATION

This module describes how to conduct the alcoholic fermentation to completion while avoiding pitfalls. Specifically, it describes yeast nutrition and how to measure and adjust YAN (yeast assimilable nitrogen), an important element in avoiding hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) and stuck fermentation problems, and how to select a yeast for the grape variety at hand and desired wine style. It also presents a specific restart protocol for dealing with a stuck fermentation, and a method for stopping an active fermentation when natural residual sweetness is desired.

MODULE 6: CONDUCTING THE MALOLACTIC FERMENTATION

This module describes how to conduct the malolactic fermentation (MLF) to completion, either in concurrent or sequential mode, while managing the desired amount of diacetyl (the compound responsible for the buttery taste), and how to monitor MLF progress and test for completion. It describes bacterial nutrition, and how to select a suitable lab culture taking into consideration impacting factors, such as total SO₂, pH, alcohol, and temperature. It also presents a specific restart protocol for dealing with a stuck MLF.

MODULE 7: WINEMAKING TOOLS: TANNINS, ENZYMES, ETC.

This module describes the use of fermentation, cellaring and finishing tannins, and the many enological enzymes used in such applications as breaking down pectin, improving press yields, intensifying varietal aromas and flavors, and extracting more anthocyanins (color) from red-skin grapes. Various products and their specific applications are discussed.

MODULE 8: FINING AND FILTERING WINE

This module describes how to select an appropriate fining agent for clarifying or fining wine, and how choose a suitable filter type and medium, and how to filter like the pros to obtain a crystal-clear wine in preparation for bottling.

MODULE 9: DEALING WITH POTENTIAL INSTABILITIES

This module describes how to deal with and mitigate chemical and physical instabilities in wine, including how to prevent renewed alcoholic or malolactic fermentations when there is substantial residual sugars or malic acid, respectively, and how to test for and stabilize against proteins and tartrates.

MODULE 10: WHITE WINEMAKING

This module describes detailed protocols for making a fruit-forward white wine and a full-bodied, oak-aged white.

MODULE 11: ROSÉ WINEMAKING

This module describes the detailed protocol for making a fruit-forward rosé wine.

MODULE 12: RED WINEMAKING

This module describes the detailed protocol for making premium, full-bodied red wine.

MODULE 13: DEALING WITH FAULTS AND PROBLEMS

This module describes how to troubleshoot, fix and prevent the most common winemaking faults, including oxidation, volatile acidity, hydrogen sulfide (H₂S), and vegetal character in Cabernet varieties.

ABOUT DANIEL PAMBIANCHI

Daniel is an avid and seasoned winemaker both as an amateur and professional having owned and operated for 10 years a small commercial winery in Niagara (Ontario, Canada). He is the author of the bestseller book “Techniques in Home Winemaking” and newly released “Modern Home Winemaking,” and has served as past Technical Editor and author for WineMaker Magazine. He has lectured at conferences on a range of subjects from wine analysis and chemistry to advanced winemaking techniques. Daniel now provides consulting and analytical lab services to both amateurs and professionals.

Daniel is an active member of the American Society for Enology and Viticulture (ASEV), the American Wine Society (AWS), and the Australian Society of Viticulture and Oenology (ASVO).