



Plata Wine Partners: The Team

Managing Plata Wine Partner's exceptional wine portfolio takes a dedicated team with a diverse set of skills. From winemaking and sales to logistics and accounting, Plata's experienced team of wine industry veterans delivers proven results for our clients, customers and brands.

Doug Walker, CEO

Doug Walker is Plata's CEO and COO. As leader of a small team of wine business veterans it is his job to make sure each and every client receives outstanding service and a product all are proud of. Doug's 25 plus years of industry experience include key roles at Chateau St. Jean, Beringer Wine Estates and a brief stint as a partner in a small wine company. He leverages all of these experiences to create the best possible opportunities for Plata's clients. All work and no play is no fun...so Doug enjoys golf and cycling with his wife and an occasional trip to wet a fly on a distant river.

Dennis Stroud, Vice President

Dennis Stroud, Vice President of Plata Wine Partners has been in wine business for 25 years. Dennis began his trip through the world of wine at Kenwood Vineyards, as National Sales Manager, and served in the same capacity at Heck Estates, Kunde Estate Winery & Vineyards, as well as Lambert Bridge Winery. In 2005, Dennis became a founding partner of Plata Wine Partners and focuses on producing wines for private label programs across the country. Dennis is married with 3 children as well as 2 grandchildren. Dennis resides in Sonoma, California and enjoys fly-fishing, food and wine, and spending time with his family.

Alison Crowe

Director of Winemaking

A multi-talented winemaker with a love of balanced wines, Alison believes that brands need to be firmly planted in consistent vineyard sites in order to grow. It's her job at Plata Wine Partners to make our clients' wine dreams a reality. A graduate of the UC Davis Viticulture & Enology program and recipient of an MBA from the UC Davis Graduate School of Management, Alison brings over 15 years of winemaking experience to bear on every lot of wine. Stints at Chalone Vineyard, Bonny Doon Vineyard as well as in Mendoza, Argentina instilled in her the important lesson that great wines begin in the vineyard.

"At Plata we make wines literally from the ground up," she says, referencing the long-term relationships she has developed with her company's vineyards. "I believe in respecting the fruit and letting the vineyards speak their particular truths. Sometimes all I have to do is get out of the way." When not in the barrel stacks or in Plata's vineyards, Alison loves to ride her bike in the hills of Carneros, cook and spend time with her husband and two young boys at their home in Napa.

Barbara Ignatowski

Assistant Winemaker

Barbara has been in the wine industry for 20 years. She started out in Hospitality and made the move to production in 1997. She began her Napa Valley career as the Lab Manager and Enologist at William Hill and then became the Assistant Winemaker at Cartlidge and Browne. As Assistant Winemaker at The Ranch Winery in St. Helena, Barbara further honed both her winemaking and customer service skills, working with a wide range of clients and wine styles.

Here at Plata Wine Partners, Barbara does what it takes to make our clients' projects come to life whether at the winery or on the road, in the vineyard or on the bottling line. She lives with her husband and their 3 dogs. Her hobbies include kayaking, hiking, and mushroom hunting when a good rainy season allows.

Jessica Tuteur, Operations Manager

Jessica is a Napa native with a BA in environmental studies from UC Santa Cruz with an emphasis on conflict resolution and mediation. Before joining the Plata team she worked in vineyard real estate and property management with Silverado Premium Properties. She has also worked in socially responsible investing and for a company that provides safe drinking water purification systems to Third World countries. She lives with her family on their cattle ranch in the hills east of Napa where she is involved in the day-to-day operation of the ranch. Jessica enjoys horseback riding, skiing and other outdoor activities and is a strong supporter of protecting open space and providing access to the public.

Elizabeth Graham, Staff Accountant

Elizabeth originally became involved in accounting to help her dad in his auto repair business. After many years working in the field in the Bay Area and Sacramento, she earned her AS degree from Napa Valley College and has been working in the wine industry since 2006. When not slinging numbers and reports, Elizabeth can be found knitting, watching the Science Channel or zipping around on wine country back roads on her Harley Davidson Sportster.