

Alexander Gelles

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OBJECTIVE

To work within a highly motivated team producing top quality wines.

EXPERIENCE

HARVEST WINEMAKER • CrushPad San Francisco, California, USA June 2008 – Present

[A unique custom crush facility, providing personalized one barrel lots of ultra-premium wines directly to consumers who participate in the winemaking process.]

Responsibilities included fruit assessment, vinification, cellar operations including extensive use of reverse osmosis for quality control, use of micro-oxidation machine, laboratory analysis, forklift operation, electric pallet-jack operation, public relations, tastings, and helping to organize the cellar team in a variety of operations.

CELLAR SUPERVISOR • Indevin Blenheim, New Zealand March 2008 – April 2008

[A rapidly growing custom crush facility processing in excess of 2200 tons, making it the second largest winery in New Zealand.]

Coordinated all daily white winemaking operations between winemakers and cellar staff. Ensured work protocols were maintained and quality of work was up to standards, including the repairing of equipment.

CELLAR WORKER • Leo Hillinger Jois, Austria November 2007 – January 2008

[An Austrian winery in the process of modernizing and expanding from the traditional Austrian winery model, bottling 1.3 million bottles of mostly Austrian varieties, mainly for export.]

Assisted in the production of quality red and white wines. Focused on winemaking techniques used to produce sweet late harvest wines, some of world's best.

VINEYARD AND CELLAR WORKER • Miguel Torres Priorat, Spain July 2007 – November 2007

[The newest addition to a family owned estate producing impressive top quality wines]

Worked in the diverse microclimates that make up the vineyards of the Priorat. This was followed by crush work in the cellar, experiencing and learning about the modern Priorat wine region in Catalonia, Spain.

CONSULTANT • WineMakers DataBase Turkey May 2007 – July 2007

[The largest producer of alcoholic beverages in Turkey and one of the fastest in WMDB history to start using the program.]

Assisted Mey Alkollü implement and begin using the WineMakers DataBase to track all steps involved in the winemaking process from their many varietals and vineyards through both wineries to the bottle.

ASSISTANT TO WINEMAKER • MGM Mondo Del Vino Italy January 2007 – April 2007

[A wine producing company focused on the creation of new styles of Italian wines with the best ratio of quality/price that can be successful across international markets]

Worked to implement and deploy the WineMakers DataBase, a program designed to track production of each of the 34 million bottles, produced from regions all over the world annually. This position included the opportunity to taste hundreds of wines each day from a wide range of varieties and contribute to the blending process.

CELLAR WORKER • Badia a Coltibuono Giaole in Chianti, Italy August 2006 – December 2006

[An 11th century monastery turned wine resort also includes a cooking school, restaurant, and a bed and breakfast.]

Worked with the vinification of both dry red wines and sweet 'Vin Santo' in this modern winemaking facility located in the heart of Chianti, Tuscany, Italy. Responsibilities also included occasional tours and tastings.

ASSISTANT TO RESERVE WINEMAKER • Viná Valdivieso Lontuè, Chile January 2006 – June 2006

[A Chilean winery specializing in the production of sparkling and still wines]

Specialized in all aspects of the vinification process tied to the inventory of super premium wines. Directly responsible for all barrel fermented white wines and later the barreling of all new wines. Participated in extensive daily tasting used to determine upcoming cellar operations followed by co-managing the six-man cellar team.

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INTERN/CELLAR WORKER • Chateau Pichon Longueville Baron *Paulliac, France* **May 2004 – December 2005**
• **Chateau Cantenac Brown** *Margaux, France*
• **Château Suduiraut** *Sauternes, France*

[*Pichon, a second growth chateau, is the first in Bordeaux to be awarded the prestigious ISO 14001 award for environmental cleanliness.*]

Learned all aspects of wine production, from the vineyards to selling bottles, working directly with the professionals in these AXA Millesime facilities. This position involved managing others during the green thinning, responsibility for the grape reception area during harvest and periodic tours and tastings with English speaking guests.

PARTNER • Klipsun Vineyard *Red Mountain American Viticultural Area (AVA), Washington* **1984-present**
[*Family owned vineyard growing quality grapes for wineries throughout the Great Pacific Northwest. Named one of the "Great Vineyards of the World" in Wine and Spirit Magazine, Fall 2002.*]

Responsible for the planning, production, and marketing of verjus, a high acid condiment made from unripe grapes used in cooking as a lemon juice or vinegar substitute.

EDUCATION

VITICULTURE/ENOLOGY • Walla Walla Community College *Walla Walla, Washington* **2002 – 2004**
Organized the production of 315 liters of Ice Wine with Dunham Cellars, Walla Walla **2002**

BIO-CHEMISTRY • Walla Walla Community College *Walla Walla, Washington* **1994 – 1997**

INTERESTS

SEASONED TRAVELER • [*Visited six continents learning about many different cultures and languages.*]

South America (10 months) | Japan (9 months as a student) | Australia (1 month) | Berlin (4 months)
Morocco (1 month) | Denmark (4 months) | France (23 months) | Italy (11 months) | Austria (3 months)
Spain (6 months) | New Zealand (4 months).

SPORTS ENTHUSIAST • [*Skiing.*] since age 3 [*Scuba Diving.*] Advanced Certification NAUI [*Golfing.*] 21 handicap

REFERENCES

	<u>contact</u>	<u>email</u>
CHATEAU CANTENAC-BROWN	José Sanfins	josesanfins@cantenacbrown.com
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