

IVO JERAMEZ

DIRECTOR OF WINEMAKING

Ivo was born in Croatia to a family of grape growers and as boy he assisted in making wine for his family's enjoyment. However, he didn't plan on becoming a winemaker. Ivo earned a master's of science degree in engineering from the University of Zagreb and dreamed of coming to California to work as an engineer.

In 1986, with the help of his uncle, Miljenko "Mike" Grgich, Ivo followed his dream and came to Napa Valley. He quickly fell in love with the scenic beauty of the area and became fascinated with wine making. Ivo decided on a career change and Mike immediately put him to work washing barrels. During his almost-three decades at Grgich Hills Ivo has worked his way up in responsibility, learning the classic style and art of winemaking from his uncle, supported by the tools of science and technology. "There's nothing in the winery or vineyard that I haven't done, not just for one day, but really worked at it," he explains.

While he has taken enology and viticulture courses at University of California, Davis, Ivo says, "I've learned more working in the vineyards and in the winery with Mike." Under the guidance of his uncle, Ivo is now responsible for the day-to-day operations in the cellar and the vineyard, including naturally farming Grgich Hills' 366 acres without artificial fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides.



NAPA VALLEY



