



Cooper Vineyards is just a short drive from Richmond, Charlottesville and Fredericksburg. It is a real destination stop with wonderful views of the vineyards and the pond. The winery includes 103 acres, 22 of which are planted with a number of varietals including Albarino, Cabernet Franc, Chardonel, Chardonnay, Petit Verdot, Vidal Blanc and Viognier. Chambourcin was recently planted with the first vintage expected in 2018.

The new vineyard in Free Union, which is part of the Monticello AVA, is planted with Chardonnay, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Viognier varietals. The first full harvest is expected in 2017.

Cooper Vineyards was licensed in July 1999 as Virginia's 53<sup>rd</sup> Farm Winery. The first year's production was 250 cases compared to approximately 6,000 cases now bottled by Cooper. The winery is a member of the Heart of Virginia Wine Trail.

## **Cooper Owners**

Since purchasing Cooper Vineyards in 2015, David and Susan Drillock have been busy upgrading the vineyard, a project expected to continue for the next three years. Construction of a new wine processing facility and enclosure of the pavilion for year-round use are projects that will soon be underway.

The Drillocks brought with them to Cooper their six draft horses, two miniature donkeys, five dogs (four Newfoundlands and one Pekinese) and three barn cats. They have since rescued three hound dogs and a beagle, plus two miniature horses. Thrilled at being part of the Virginia Wine Industry and Cooper Vineyards, the owners plan to continue the Cooper Vineyards tradition of making remarkable wines in a relaxing atmosphere, evidenced by awards already received in their first 10 months of ownership.



## **LEED Certification**

Cooper Vineyards "green" tasting room has received LEED Platinum certification (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) which is awarded only to projects that meet the highest-rated standards in green building technology. The tasting room has two complete walls of glass that extend up for two stories, giving the impression of an "indoor/outdoor" space regardless of the weather. Off the tasting room is a covered deck with outdoor bar. The aesthetics of the design with the surrounding landscape create the impression that the tasting room is an outgrowth of the vineyards itself, not unlike the way flavors of Cooper wines express the terroir of the vineyard soils.

## **Tastings and Events**

Cooper Vineyards Tasting Room is open daily, 11 to 5, Friday till 9. Friday Nights Flights is a popular program to unwind from the workweek and enjoy live music and great fare from food trucks that change weekly. Saturday and Sunday afternoons feature live complimentary music.

A number of wines that fit a variety of tastes are sold only at the winery, online or through the Wine Club. The Wine Club has some 750 members who get to enjoy Cooper Wines four times a year, usually at a special wine tasting event. A newly released red dessert wine, Genesis, is labeled "53<sup>rd</sup> Winery and Vineyard".

The Cooper Vineyards Tasting Room staff is knowledgeable, approachable and lovers of wine. Many have been with the winery for years and will welcome visitors along with owners David and Susan Drillock. All have the same goal...to make your Cooper experience a great one.





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