

SIP AWAY

Just two hours outside of Los Angeles, nestled in the rolling hills of the Santa Ynez Valley, just close enough to the shore to get a perfect ocean breeze, sits Folded Hills Winery, Farmstead, and Ranch. Owners Kim and Andrew Busch, of the Anheuser-Busch family, have created a remarkable legacy of their own in Folded Hills Winery, and want you to come experience it with them.

FOLDED HILLS WINERY • TASTING ROOM • HOMESTEAD

Written by Maddy Pasqualini



The Anheuser-Busch family is probably most known for their beer, Budweiser and Busch beer to be exact. But Andrew Busch, along with his wife Kim, decided to carve their own path. Andrew rode as a professional polo player for 30 years, serving as Team USA's captain in the 1998 Polo World Cup in Santa Barbara. It was at that very World Cup that he and Kim fell in love with the Santa Barbara lifestyle. They wanted to raise their children with the free spirit of the California coast, but also yearned to show them the hard work and joys of ranch life. Thus, Folded Hills became home.

With Folded Hills as home, Kim and Andrew yearned to find a way to share it with the public. The opening of the Folded Hills Homestead Tasting Room has done just that. Upon entering Folded Hills you're welcomed by the rich and comforting textures of leathers, velvets, distressed woods, and aged brass of the beautifully curated tasting room. The brand new tasting room, sets the perfect tone for your wine day stay - relaxed yet luxurious with no detail missed, a serious winery with a sense of humor. The tasting room is housed in the original dwelling of a homesteader who settled there in 1898. Along with raising animals, planting trees, and tending to crops, this bold homesteader built a hillside vineyard and made pre-prohibition wine in his basement. The restoration of the now tasting room beautifully reflects the history and spirit of the property, mixing original details with well curated new ones. The tasting room is designed to make Folded Hills guests feel at home. Come grab a glass of impeccable wine, sit yourself in a leather club chair or out on the patio, gaze out onto the rolling hills, and you'll want to make Folded Hills your permanent home.

And that's exactly how Folded Hills wants you to feel, right at home. They refer to themselves as a "come as you are kind of place" and "a place with serious standards when it comes to wine, while never taking themselves too seriously". There's not even a hint of snobbery when you walk into

Folded Hills, they practice what they preach. This come as you are attitude spawns from owner Andrew Busch's upbringing on his family farm, Grant's Farm, in St. Louis. Andrew helped run the farm, caring for hundreds of animals including the ever famous Budweiser Clydesdales. His father opened the family farm to the public in 1954, leaving behind a strong legacy of hospitality, family, and a way of life that values the land.

Andrew and Kim have taken those crucial family values and created their own legacy with Folded Hills. Although they aren't making beer, their wine reflects the values that Anheuser-Busch was built from, quality being first and foremost. Everything on Folded Hills, from the vineyards to the food crops, are farmed organically. Proper time was taken to walk the hills and meticulously study the soil and microclimate to ensure that only the best grapes would flourish. Grenache, Syrah, and a collection of Rhone whites were planted in 2014, given ample time to grow, and picked at the optimum time. Folded Hills takes a very traditional French approach to wine. Every wine is made in an honest and time-honored way to ensure the absolute best product. The wines are simply delicious. My two favorites include the 2016 Grant Grenache as well as the award winning 2018 Estate Lilly Rose (when I tell you this rose is the best you'll ever taste, I really mean it). Folded Hills has a few different ways you can enjoy their perfected bottles, the first of which is to go visit the tasting room. Open daily from 11am-5pm the tasting room offers a tasting flight at just \$25/person, with wines by the glass and bottle are available as well. Andrew and Kim recommend bringing a picnic lunch and enjoying an afternoon in the courtyard sipping their wines, playing bocce ball, or relaxing in the cozy living room inside. Take your time to explore the property, visiting the pigs, cows, goats, and donkeys. See the bountiful organic farm, and stop into the farm store to buy some on site grown





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produce and treats. Folded Hills also offers customized VIP experiences for you and your party to get the most out of your day. Once you’ve visited the tasting room and discovered your favorite bottles, you can join the Folded Hills Wine Club. The Wine Club is a way for Andrew and Kim to share not only their wine, but their land, lifestyle, and all the experiences that come with it. The Wine Club is completely free to join and offers you six bottles of wine shipped twice a year (spring and fall), 20% off all wine purchases, first dibs on new and limited release wines, 15% off all farmstead purchases, four complimentary tastings per month, and invitations to private members only events on property. If time doesn’t permit a drive to wine country there is also another tasting room located in beautiful Montecito. Folded Hills has opened the first and only wine tasting room in Montecito, allowing you to experience the laid back ranch lifestyle a little closer to home. Of course, you can also purchase bottles individually online or in select wine shops, but make sure to make a trip to one of the tasting rooms first to find your favorites.

Visiting Folded Hills will transport you to a different world, where the traffic noise, smog, and stresses of the city don’t exist. There’s something magic about those folded hills. Andrew, Kim, and their entire staff act as the perfect hosts, never missing a beat and making you feel right at home. They may not be brewing beer, but the Busch values of family, land, quality, and hospitality will most certainly live on through Andrew, Kim and their children. Folded Hills is a legacy of its own - paying tribute to the values they hold so dear, while moving forward to forge their own path.

