## IWCA Reaches Major Milestone with 40 Winery Members Across the Globe



<u>International Wineries for Climate Action (IWCA)</u> has reached the outstanding milestone of welcoming 40 wine producing member companies spread across 5 continents and 10 countries worldwide.

SANTA ROSA, CALIF. & VILAFRANCA DEL PENEDES, SPAIN. (3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023) - International Wineries for Climate Action (IWCA) is proud to welcome Opus One Winery (California), St. Michelle Wine Estates (Washington) and Tikveš Winery (IWCA's first winery from North Macedonia), bringing the total number of global winery members to 40. All are champions for emissions reduction in their wine producing regions.

Speaking about their joining IWCA, Angela Vavricka, Production Manager, Opus One Winery, said, "Opus One is eager to commit to reducing greenhouse gas emissions while encouraging and inspiring others in the wine industry to do the same through our membership with IWCA. We look forward to contributing to the creation of a green print for the planet that will protect individuals, families, and our community."

Madeline Mathews, Sustainability Manager, Ste. Michelle Wine Estates, added, "Sustainability in its best form is data-based, replicable, and open sourced. IWCA and its commitment to climate action account for all this and allow for wineries to collaborate in a way that can create real sustainable change. At Ste. Michelle we are committed to this mission and building a path forward for the wine industry that supports our planet's environmental and social systems."

The Owner and President of Tikveš Winery, Svetozar Janevski said, "My passion is to bring out the best of the Macedonian terroir to the world, by minding the colors, the taste, and the rich heritage of Macedonia. It is my commitment to future generations; to reduce emissions and to produce sustainable wines."

Following the launch of the IWCA certificate program last year, reaching the impressive number of 40 wine company members worldwide positions IWCA as the principle international climate action platform for the wine sector dedicated to collaboration and a leading advocate at a global level working to bring actionable strategies to accelerate its decarbonization urgently. IWCA member wineries regularly conduct comprehensive greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) inventories, allowing them to identify emissions "hotspots" and take targeted action to reduce their carbon footprint. Wineries also join a *collective* movement—learning and sharing best practices with the world's most forward-looking wineries and speaking up together about the urgency of climate change in the wine sector.

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## **About the new IWCA winery members:**

<u>Opus One Winery</u> is dedicated to the pursuit of absolute quality and the creation of a single wine of balance, complexity, and power. As farmers and artisans, deeply concerned with our collective future, Opus One recognizes that sustainability practices benefit the winery, its employees, its neighbors, its customers, and future generations. The culture and internal practices at Opus One reflect the winery's commitment to conservation and responsible consumption in the areas of energy, water, waste management, transportation, purchasing, and food.

Ste. Michelle Wine Estates is among the largest premium wine companies in the U.S. and the pioneering winery of the Pacific Northwest. Founded the very day Prohibition was repealed in 1933, Ste. Michelle has always challenged convention and seized opportunity. With this spirit, their principles remain rooted deeply in producing the highest quality wines while ensuring environmental and social responsibility. As longtime stewards of the land, they are committed to nurturing the land they farm and protecting the social and environmental ecosystems that sustain their businesses.

<u>Tikveš Winery</u> was founded in 1885 in a region with centuries-old winemaking tradition, blessed with perfect natural conditions, warm and passionate people and a lively, authentic culture. Dedicated to improving the environment and social surroundings through example and experience, Tikveš commitment is to lead and guide the path for the wine industry in Macedonia.

**Join the movement**: IWCA actively invites wineries interested in its mission to **contact us**. The organization is open to any wine company involved in the production process from winegrowing to bottling that believes in taking strategic action to accelerate innovative climate solutions.

Visit <u>www.iwcawine.org</u> to learn how your winery can apply to join this organization. A Spanish-language version of the website is available at <u>es.iwcawine.org</u>.

## For more information

Charlotte Hey, Executive Director, IWCA: charlotte.hey@iwcawine.org

## **About IWCA**

International Wineries for Climate Action (IWCA) was founded in February 2019 by Familia Torres (Spain) and Jackson Family Wines (USA), two leading wine families deeply rooted in environmental stewardship with a passion to preserve the world's great wine heritage in the face of climate change. IWCA is a collaborative working group that addresses climate change through innovative carbon reduction strategies. IWCA's objective is for all members to become Net Zero by 2050 across Scopes 1-3, ensuring consistent reductions to meet intermediate targets by 2030. IWCA received the 2019 *Wine Enthusiast* Social Visionary Wine Star Award and the 2021 *the drinks business* Best Green Initiative Award for its leadership in galvanizing collaborative climate action across the wine industry.

IWCA is a partner in the <u>United Nations' Race to Zero campaign</u>, the largest-ever alliance committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050 at the latest. IWCA, which joined the campaign in 2021, became the first facilitator and champion within the wine and agricultural industries to build momentum and support for immediate solutions that help move wine producers and vineyard owners closer to becoming climate positive.

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