

the drunken cyclist

I have three passions: wine, cycling, travel, family, and math.



Back up to Wine Country

Posted on March 31, 2016 by the drunken cyclist

As I may have mentioned, I have been out in California for the better part of two weeks visiting my in-laws with my boys who have been on Spring Break. Actually, that is not entirely accurate as the first week, I headed up to Sonoma shortly after dropping my son off at his grandparents' house in the East Bay. I spent the better part of a week up there, coming back in time to help celebrate my son's 13th birthday.

After Easter, I headed right back up, this time spending more time on the Napa side of things with several more visits and seeing a few good friends. I plan on writing much more on these experiences, but I thought for now I would publish a few pictures of my time out here.



My first stop was in Dry Creek where I helped a good friend bottle his 2013, I mean 2014 Merlot. That is me operating the corker as my friend fills a bottle.



dozen wines just after lunch.

The next day started at Old World Wines, going through about a



I then headed down to Matanzas Creek, where there were another dozen or so wines.



After a night at the lovely Vintner's Inn, I was back up in Dry Creek for a tour and tasting at Ferrari-Carano.

An hour drive through a crazy rain storm took me up to Mendocino County and a fantastic tasting at Ferrari-Carano's other winery, Lazy Creek.



The last time I was in Mendocino, I made the mistake of skipping Roederer. Not this time....



That night I ate at the incomparable Willi's Wine Bar.

The following day I spent some quality time at the Santa Rosa Library...



...and an afternoon tasting at Jordan.



Wednesday was bookended by two marathon tastings. The first was a four-hour laugh fest at Ramey.



Then just about four and a half hours at Rodney Strong.



The following morning meant nearly five hours at MacPhail.



Back out to the “extreme” East Bay for some birthday cake and a Korean Easter.



Monday morning right back up with a three-hour tasting at Martin Ray.



I then raced over to Napa for a tour of the vineyards and a tasting at Cain Cellars with Chris Howell.





Tuesday morning started early with my buddy Bill Smart at Lambert Bridge.



After catching up with some old friends at Kokomo and Petersen, I somehow got roped into cooking for a dozen people at Cindy Cosco's house.



My last day started with a memorable tasting at Ehlers Estate...



...and ended with a trip to one of my favorite online retailers, Last Bottle.

Other than that, not much has been going on....

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