

Chouinard Vineyards

Site Rental Information

Thank you for inquiring about reserving our winery for your special event. The setting, one of the most picturesque in the Bay Area, is nestled in the oak-covered hills of the Walpert Ridge, just east of the San Francisco Bay. Chouinard Vineyards has a limited number of dates available in May thru early October for those who are looking for a woodland venue in a beautiful winery setting. Our vineyard-lined garden picnic site can accommodate up to 125 guests. Included in the site fee is a concrete dance floor, stage/deck, rectangular and round tables, and metal chairs. Please note, Chouinard Vineyards does not have indoor seating accommodations. Tents and heaters can be ordered if desired.

Friday-Sunday Events

The rental fee for a 4 hour event, plus a one hour set-up and one hour clean-up is \$1500, plus \$5 per guest. \$750 is due at the time of the booking/contract signing to reserve the date. The remainder is due on the day of the event. Two weeks prior to the scheduled event, a \$750 damage/clean-up deposit is required by separate check. This deposit is returned one week after the event if there were no damages, and if the site was left in clean condition. Additional set-up time may be secured without charge if the site is not in use. Any unscheduled additional site rental hours are an additional \$400 per hour, or fraction thereof.

Wedding ceremonies without receptions can be booked for \$400 for a one-hour service during winery-closed-hours only.

Monday-Thursday Events

Chouinard offers a flexible, informal weekday venue May through October that can include tours, wine tastings, casual picnics, luncheons, dinners, and musical events. The site rental fee is \$100 per hour plus \$5 per person. A two hour minimum is required. A non-refundable deposit of \$100 is required to book the venue. The remainder is due the day of event. A \$750 damage/clean-up deposit is required two weeks prior to the event by separate check. This will be returned one week after the event if the site is left in undamaged and clean condition.

Details...

Wine - Chouinard wine purchase minimum is one case per twenty-five guests. The cases can be mixed in any combination and any wine unused will be returned to you. We are happy to offer wine pairing recommendations, assistance calculating wine usage estimates. No spirits, beer or other non-Chouinard wine is permitted without permit. Non-alcoholic beverages may be provided by you or your caterer, or we can purchase it for you.

Catering – We would recommend to you our preferred caterer, **Ruby Red Kitchen**. Juli and her staff have created many exceptional dishes for our guests from appetizers to desserts. You may also select your own licensed and insured company. A site visit is required for all caterers new to Chouinard, as there are no on-site cooking facilities available. All site clean-up is ultimately the responsibility of the client. Table clean-up, table coverings, glassware, and china are not included in the rental fee but may be arranged through your caterer. Rental chairs may be brought in if desired.

Parking - Cars are not allowed to park on Palomares Road due to Alameda County regulations. The winery has 42 parking spots available. Parking is strictly enforced to the designated parking areas. Failure to comply may result in forfeiture of the damage deposit. Parking attendants are \$30 per hour, and are required for groups of 25 or more. Vans, buses, or limos may be contacted for larger groups.

Music - Chouinard has built up a fantastic list of musicians who have played in the vineyard over the years. We are happy to share our very own Music Coordinator with you. Dawn Coburn can refer you to bands with a wide variety of sounds including her own very unique talents. You can also contract your own licensed DJ or band. Unfortunately, due to Alameda County sound ordinances, the music must end by 9:30.

Other Vendors - A preferred vendor list is available to help you with choosing your event professionals, such as rental companies, photographers, florists, bakeries, limo/van services, and local hotels and inns.

Decorations –You are welcome to decorate the winery for your special event. Please be sure to remove your decorations after your party is concluded. Balloons are not permitted because they often escape and cause problems for wildlife

Please note - Chouinard Vineyards is a working winery which requires that air conditioning units are running during the warm summer months. The fans can be turned down for ceremonies, or for other short periods of time. Also, during harvest time yellow jackets are sometimes present due to the high sugar content of the vineyards surrounding the venue.