

A WEEKEND WITH LIVING LEGEND  
GABRIELE RAUSSE



Friday, September 13, 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.  
Bottle Signing & Meet and Greet  
**Great Hall**

Saturday, September 14, 6:00 p.m.  
Gabriele Rausse Winery  
Reception & Winemaker Dinner  
**Crystal Ballroom**

Limited availability ~ \$140 per person  
Reservations may be made via Ticketbud.



# Gabriele Rausse, Father of Virginia's Vineyards



Gabriele Rausse has been called “the Father of Virginia wine” by *The New York Times*, a title he earned by his involvement in well over 100 vineyards and wineries in Virginia. He began his journey in 1976 when his friend Gianni Zonin, President of the Italian Wine Company, brought him to Virginia to establish Barboursville Vineyards. Gabriele would later go on to plant Simeon Vineyards, known today as Jefferson Vineyards, and in 1997 he planted his own vineyard, Gabriele Rausse Winery. Called a “garage winery,” the fermentation and

storage rooms where stainless steel vats and wood barrels are wall to wall are literally underneath his house. Today Gabriele’s two sons, Tim and Peter, operate the winery. Tim is the vineyard manager/winemaker and Peter is the General Manager.

Gabriele can be found most days mingling with the winery guests and dispensing countless stories and tales about not just wine but life in general. He is quite the storyteller, and his wines reflect the soul and terroir of Virginia both in quality and depth of flavor interest from a wide-ranging lineup of grape varieties. They include Nebbiolo, the signature grape of northern Italy, Grüner Veltliner, Cabernet Franc, Roussanne and in recent years both a still wine and a sparkling wine from the Chasselas Doré grape, which you are unlikely to see anywhere else in Virginia.

Gabriele helped start the Guest Vintner program back in September of 2021 as the first Vintner featured at the Virginia Wine Experience. He is truly a Legend.