



# WINERY *of the month*

## CASANEL VINEYARDS & WINERY

*People, Passion and a Sense of Place*

Casanel Vineyards in Leesburg is a family-owned and operated Virginia winery. The property was purchased by Casey and Nelson DeSouza in 2006, and they started right away, hand-planting 10,000 vines and restoring historical buildings. The Tasting Room opened 11 years ago this month and Casanel will be celebrating with a weekend of anniversary events on October 18-19. The festivities include live music entertainment on Friday evening and Sunday afternoon, highlighted with a Harvest Dinner on Saturday evening. Details are on the website:

[www.casanelvineyards.com](http://www.casanelvineyards.com)



The country-style Casanel Tasting Room, consistently voted a top favorite of Wine Lovers, is a hand-renovated 1800s stone barn that was on the property. An event space was a 2014 addition. A smaller more intimate wine club includes exclusive perks for members, such as library tastings, special events and dinners

The DeSouza daughters, Anna and Katie, have been involved in running the Tasting Room since its inception. Anna, now General Manager, also continues working in the Tasting Room. Katie is the Winemaker and head of vineyard management. She has worked closely under the tutelage of world-renowned vineyard consultant Lucie Morton, as well as Bordeaux-trained enologist Katell Griaud. Katie's husband Tyler Henley, a West Coast trained winemaker, joined the Casanel team last year as Production Manager.

The goal of the DeSouza family is to share their beautiful property and showcase quality Virginia-grown and made wines, from bud-to-bottle. Since 2010, all grapes are grown and processed on the property. Their wines have been highly recognized for their quality, winning numerous awards in both Virginia state and international wine competitions.



Casanel is open year-round Friday-Monday 11am-6pm with a short closure between Christmas and the New Year. Groups of 8 or more require a reservation.

### **Casanel Vineyards**

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