



The Story

Adamo Estate Winery's history begins with Mario Adamo: visionary, risk-taker, pioneer.

Born in Calabria, Italy, and arriving in Canada when he was 18 years old, Mario followed the path to where his passion for food could shine. In 1972, Mario and his wife Nancy started a thriving catering business, and in 1985, they took the opportunity to move their business and life to a location that really felt like home. It was then that Hockley Valley Resort was born, and has now evolved into a 104 room, four-season resort and culinary destination.

The Adamo family philosophy has always been driven by quality and hard work, beginning with Nancy and Mario, and following through to the next generation where Julie and John-Paul are now at the helm of the resort and building on that legacy.

As the years passed, Mario continued to consider the land in their region, comparing it to his home in Calabria. He remembered the vine-covered hills fondly, deciding that the hills of Hockley Valley would also be a sustainable option for grape-growing. Though the region was not known for winemaking, this did not deter Mario. He followed his instinct and planted some test vines with his late friend, Frank. And he waited.

The vitality of those vines was confirmed when Jonas Newman of Hinterland Winery paid Mario an early spring visit, confirming that the vines were hearty enough for extended planting.

Mario's sheer will and determination, combined with the family's standard for the highest quality, is the foundation for Adamo Estate Winery. Along with their drive to succeed, the Adamos sought sage advice (from winemakers like Jonas Hinterland) and capable staff, like their Vineyard and Winery Manager, Shauna White, whose experience is surpassed only by her passion for excellence.

With the vineyard now at 23,000 vines and 25 acres, the winery construction is now complete. It includes a 20,000 sq. ft. facility for production, wine tastings and retail sales.

Born out of Mario's historical fondness, innate curiosity and desire to succeed, his vision for Adamo Estate Winery is innovative and focused on family tradition—something the Adamo family has proven to be a successful formula.