

# 2025 WORLDWIDE VINEYARDS' 40TH ANNIVERSARY

**The year 2025 marks the company's 40th anniversary.**

**1985**, Paul Birebent founded the company Worldwide Vineyards that provided, at that time, consulting services in oenology and viticulture.

While on a business trip in the United States a few years earlier, Paul discovered the field budding of grapevines, being practiced by Mexican workers in the Napa Valley vineyards, and whose grafting techniques were known as T-budding and Chip-budding. He understood, at the time, the importance of those grafting methods, and became aware of the fantastic opportunities offered by the practice of top-grafting. On his return, he decided to try them out in his own vineyard in Corsica. He studied them, perfected them and adapted them to the European viticulture. Paul published numerous articles on his research throughout his career, always with the support of the renowned Professor Denis Boubals, of the University of Montpellier.

Pioneer in grapevine grafting in France, Paul Birebent launched the grafting business as a service provider to meet an urgent demand for varietal reconversion, when the noble grapes wines were very much in vogue.



Marc Birebent, who is also a passionate about vines and grafting, assisted his father from the beginning and took over management of the company in 1997.

He has decided to refocus the company's interests on the grafting services, since he was always a believer in Paul's research and is strongly convinced of the advantages of these grafting methods. Since then, he has not ceased to promote T-budding and Chip-budding and lead the company expansion on all continents.

As a visionary, Marc has concentrated his research on grafting and graft quality.

Author of numerous publications, he has revealed the impact and consequences of how low-quality mechanical bench grafting of *Vitis vinifera* onto rootstocks, has impacted our vineyards, which have been slowly perishing, and whose lifespan does not exceed 25 to 30 years.

By combining ancestral practices with today's viticultural reality, Marc Birebent is working for the future of grape growing.

***When a Graft becomes a Vine.***

Worldwide Vineyards gives grape growers the opportunity to recreate healthy and sustainable vineyards, using high-quality grafting methods that respect the plant tissues.

Nowadays, grafting grapevines by hand has become a means of improving vineyards management over the long term.

Worldwide Vineyards, thanks to his know-how and long experience, is a major player and forerunner in sustainable grape growing. The company has the technical and human resources to assist grape growers in implementing their strategy, in order to respond quickly to fluctuating markets, to anticipate future trends or to improve the plant health and the sustainability of their vineyards.

Worldwide Vineyards operates, with its teams of grafters, all over the world. It guarantees a high success rate, either to establish new blocks, by field grafting directly *Vinifera* onto the established rootstocks, or to top-graft existing vineyards, where there is a need to replace the varietal, quickly and without pulling out the vines.

In Germany, we have expanded thanks to the active and passionate involvement of our friend Mr. Alfons Klippel-Stahmann, who has been recently joined by the excellent winemaker Mr. David Beck.

Respectful of the plant health, the budding techniques only cause a small and superficial incision on the trunk. Since the scion is directly applied to the stock, it optimizes the cambium alignment and a good sealing of the tissues. The final sealed graft is free from necrosis and consequently, from fungi and wood diseases, which are a real calamity for contemporary vineyards. These grafting methods are less traumatic for the vines and allows to not saw off the trunk. Instead, a green shoot is preserved at the top of the plant, to keep it green, and therefore, avoids the desiccation of the trunk. This permits the vine to stay alive, allowing a second grafting in case of failure.

The bud-grafted grapevines are free from dead wood and scars at the grafting point. They are more robust and therefore better able to defend themselves against pathogens. By reviving ancestral methods of grafting onto American rootstocks directly in the field, we obtain vine plants that are both better rooted and more resistant to climate changes, and ultimately that produces better wines.

***A guarantee of unrivalled expertise and experience.***

**2025**, Worldwide Vineyards has grafted millions of grapevines in vineyards all over the world. The company cultivates its reputation as the benchmark for providing quality grafting services, in Europe and internationally.

**For 40 years**, Worldwide Vineyards has been accompanying grape growers on their journey towards an original, qualitative and sustainable viticulture.

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*Many Thanks to All of You*



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*#letscultivatethegrapevinesoftomorrow*