

**JENNIFER
GARNER**
*Relaxed
Glamour*

INSIDE
THOMAS
KELLER'S
PRIVATE
NAPA
KITCHEN

EMBRACING
OPULENCE
IN A S.F.
MANSION

CALIFORNIA STYLE

FALL FASHION

**THE
BEST OF THE
SEASON**

'80s STYLE WITH ELEGANCE

FRENCH CHIC HITS L.A.

THE STATE'S BEST NEW BOUTIQUES

THE MOVIE DESIGNERS
ARE DYING TO SEE

SPECIAL SECTION

INSIDER'S GUIDE

CALIFORNIA'S

FRENCH CONNECTION

THE GOLDEN STATE IS BRIMMING WITH THE BEST FRANCE HAS TO OFFER, FROM REFINED PARISIAN ANTIQUES AND SUBLIME CHAMPAGNE COCKTAILS TO MUSEUMS FILLED WITH EXQUISITE WORKS BY RODIN AND BOUCHER

Bistro flair at
Santa Barbara's
Café Luck.

Chef Josiah Citrin curbs any Left Bank longings at **Mélisse**, infusing farmers' market sensibility into the civilized elegance of a Michelin-starred temple. *1104 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica, 310-395-0881; melisse.com.*

PALM SPRINGS

A bastion of French sophistication since the 1970s, **Le Vallauris** boasts Louis XV furniture and consistently delectable sautéed foie gras and roast rack of lamb in the



Mélisse



Cafe Chloe



Comme Ça

heart of Palm Springs. *385 W. Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, 760-325-5059; levallauris.com.*

ORANGE COUNTY

O.C. sophisticates and weary shoppers find solace in **Marché Moderne's** cozy banquettes with one of the best tartes flambé this side of Alsace. *3333 Bristol St., Ste. 3001, Costa Mesa, 714-434-7900; marchemoderne.net.*

SAN DIEGO

Past the formal parlor at the Grand Del Mar, patrons at **Addison** settle into velvet armchairs for silver-tray service and perfectly timed visits from the Champagne and fromage carts. *5200 Grand Del Mar Way, S.D., 858-314-1900; addisondelmar.com.*

A chalkboard menu featuring bistro favorites adds to the warmth and nostalgia at Philippe Beltran's neighborhood hotspot, **Bleu Bohème**. *4090 Adams Ave., S.D., 619-255-4167; bleuboheme.com.*

A jewel box French cafe in San Diego's East Village, **Cafe Chloe's** romantic sidewalk patio and divine croque madames exude Old Country charm. *721 Ninth Ave., No. 1, S.D., 619-232-3242; cafechloe.com.*

WINE

NAPA

Situated on 225 acres in the heart of Napa, the descendents of winemaker Jacques de Coninck are carrying forward the family tradition at **Beaucanon Vineyards** with complex, Bordeaux-style wines. *1006 Monticello Rd., Napa Valley, 707-254-1460; beaucanonestate.com.*

Soon after Marketta and Jean-Noël Fourmeaux's first trip to CA in 1980 as official wine tasters for the French government, they moved to Napa and opened **Chateau Potelle**. *3875 Mt. Veeder Rd., Napa Valley, 707-255-9440; chateaupotelle.com.*

Taittinger's historic Château de la Marquetterie in Champagne, France inspired the firm's magnificent stateside venture, **Domaine Carneros**. *1240 Duhig Rd., Napa Valley, 800-716-2788; domaine-carneros.com.*

The first French-owned sparkling wine venture in the U.S., **Domaine Chandon** continues to produce CA's finest *methode traditionnelle* sparkling wine. *1 California Dr., Yountville, 707-944-2280; domaine-chandon.com.*

Top

3

CHAMPAGNE COCKTAILS

Sweet, light and fizzy, the ultimate French aperitif always starts with a glass of Champagne. Here, the top three renditions from around the state of the classic Champagne cocktail.

- 1 Foreign Cinema's "French Kiss"** 2534 Mission St., S.F., 415-648-7600; foreigncinema.com.
- 2 Absinthe Brasserie and Bar's "French 75"** 398 Hayes St., S.F., 415-551-1590; absinthe.com.
- 3 Cecconi's "Blood Orange Mimosa"** 8764 Melrose Ave., L.A., 310-432-2000; cecconiswesthollywood.com.

Absinthe Brasserie's "French 75"



With a long history of winemaking in Libourne, Christian Moueix acquired **Dominus Estate** to make wine in a distinct Napa terroir with all the spirit and style of a great Bordeaux. *2570 Napanook Rd., Yountville, 707-944-8954; dominusestate.com.*

ESCAPES

NAPA

Napa's enchanted **Auberge du Soleil** is tucked into a hillside among olive trees and meandering garden paths. Each of the terraced *maisons* boast views of the Valley vineyards. *180 Rutherford Hill Rd., Rutherford, 707-963-1211; aubergedusoleil.com.*

YOSEMITE

Just outside Yosemite National Park, **Château du Sureau's** French charm begins with the staff, clad in classic

black-and-white uniforms, and spills out the shuttered windows and across the Parisian balconies and bocce court. *48688 Victoria Ln., Oakhurst, 559-683-6860; elderberryhouse.com.*

CENTRAL COAST

From its horse-drawn carriage to the Pony Club, a Parisian style wine bar, the intimate 16-room **Hotel Cheval** is a true equestrian escape in the Central Coast wine region. *1021 Pine St., Paso Robles, 805-226-9995; hotelcheval.com.*

LOS ANGELES

The legendary **Chateau Marmont** channels all the fantasy of the Loire Valley royal residence it was designed after. *8221 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, 323-656-1010; chateaumarmont.com.*

SAN DIEGO

Cal-a-Vie, a destination health spa set on 200 valley acres in Vista, is lovingly modeled after a French village (complete with a hilltop chapel) and decorated with fine European antiques. *29402 Spa Havens Way, Vista, 888-373-8773; cal-a-vie.com.* ●

Cal-a-Vie

