

LOS ANGELES CONFIDENTIAL

The GOURMET ISSUE

ICONS OF LA'S FOOD SCENE

KARINA SMIRNOFF TAKES US DANCING

EVA CHOW TALKS TO LACMA'S MICHAEL GOVAN

WOLFGANG PUCK LOOKS BACK

EXCLUSIVE

IT'S A MAD MEN'S WORLD
We get candid with
ELISABETH MOSS & JON HAMM

PLUS, CONTRIBUTORS
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EAT, DRINK & BE MERRY

One of the world's premier wine regions is just a short trip from LA, and fall is the time to go. Here, a guide to the best of Napa and Sonoma Valley. *By Sarah Khan*



▼ WHERE TO STAY

San Francisco is the perfect jumping-off point for a weekend in wine country. Reserve a room at the sleek **Parc 55** (55 Cyril Magnin St., San Francisco; 415-392-8000; parc55hotel.com), located just steps from Union Square; explore the city via its famed cable cars, which stop right outside. Then rest up, because you'll want to hit the road bright and early for the hour-and-a-half drive north to **Hotel Healdsburg** (25 Matheson St., Healdsburg; 707-431-2800; hotelhealdsburg.com), a great home base from which to discover the Sonoma Valley. The 55-room inn is the site of Charlie Palmer's Michelin-starred Dry Creek Kitchen, celebrating the region's freshest ingredients. The masses may come to the **Vintners Inn** (4350 Barnes Road, Santa Rosa; 707-575-7350; vintnersinn.com) for the legendary John Ash & Co. restaurant, but it's the personal touches that make this intimate

44-room property memorable—think homemade chocolate-chip cookies at turndown. Or for a more earthy experience, book a Mission Suite with a working fireplace and an oversize Jacuzzi at the **Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn and Spa** (100 Boyes Blvd., Sonoma; 707-938-9000; fairmont.com/sonoma). The hotel has its own hot springs, so be sure to try out the bathing ritual at the spa's unique bathhouse. At the romantic Tuscan-style villa **Kenwood Inn** (10400 Sonoma Highway, Kenwood; 707-833-1293; kenwoodinn.com), you don't just drink the varietals, you soak in them, too—treat yourself to a wine wrap at the spa. Over in Napa, **Auberge du Soleil** (180 Rutherford Hill Road, Rutherford, 707-963-1211; aubergedusoleil.com) is the ultimate couples' retreat, with sumptuous feather beds, oversize soaking tubs for two and a sexy pool.

▲ WHERE TO DRINK

This is why you're here, so let's get down to business. Consider it the ultimate Kodak moment: The **Ferrari-Carano Vineyards and Winery** (8761 Dry Creek Road, Healdsburg; 707-433-6700; ferrari-carano.com) has the lock on some of the region's most scenic views and postcard-worthy landscaping. Lose yourself in the meticulously designed Asian gardens on your way to a private tasting at the beautifully appointed villa. You'll feel like you're on top of the world, literally, at **Cade Winery** (360 Howell Mountain Road South, Angwin; 707-965-2746; cadewinery.com), perched high atop Howell Mountain. The soaring panoramas are well worth the trek, as are the Sauvignon Blancs. Sip samples of Carneros Estate's Rhône- and Burgundian-style varietals at the **Anaba** tasting patio (60 Bonneau Road, Sonoma; 707-996-4188; anabawines.com), situated in a lovely renovated farmhouse.

For a truly unique hands-on experience, dive into the Winemaker for a Weekend program at **Calistoga Ranch** (580 Lommel Road, Calistoga; 707-254-2800; calistogaranch.com). Apart from taking advantage of the hotel's amenities (luxé accommodations, dinner at the Lakehouse restaurant, spa treatments), the program includes a day in the vineyard and cellar participating in pruning, harvesting and bottling, as well as plenty of vino to enjoy, of course.



▼ WHERE TO EAT

In the heart of Yountville, sink your teeth into the terrine of chicken and foie gras at the restaurant at **Bardessono** (6526 Yount St., Yountville; 707-204-6000; bardessono.com). A few blocks away, chef Richard Reddington serves up delectable Asian-, Mediterranean- and French-inflected fare at **Redd**



(6480 Washington St., Yountville; 707-944-2222; reddnapavalley.com). Back in Healdsburg, food is nothing short of artistry in the hands of chef Douglas Keane at **Cyrus** (29 North St., Healdsburg; 707-433-3311; cyrusrestaurant.com), who undeniably earns his two Michelin stars with a visionary five- or eight-course tasting menu.



◀ WHERE TO LIVE

Fallen so in love with the area you're thinking about a longer-term stay? Napa has options galore for those looking for a vacation home. Nature meets luxury at the Craftsman-style **Lodges at Calistoga Ranch** (580 Lommel Road, Calistoga, 866-442-4634; calistogaranchliving.com), hidden away in a 157-acre canyon. Or take advantage of the restaurants, pools, fitness center and spa at **The Orchard** (4048 Sonoma Hwy., Napa; 888-400-9831; theorchardatcarneros.com), where the 17 luxurious cottages share amenities with The Carneros Inn.