

TASTE Tours Tuscany

Join wine editor JoAnn Actis-Grande at
Casali di Bibbiano, a beautiful villa in the heart of Tuscany.
Enjoy wine, food, and many magical memories...



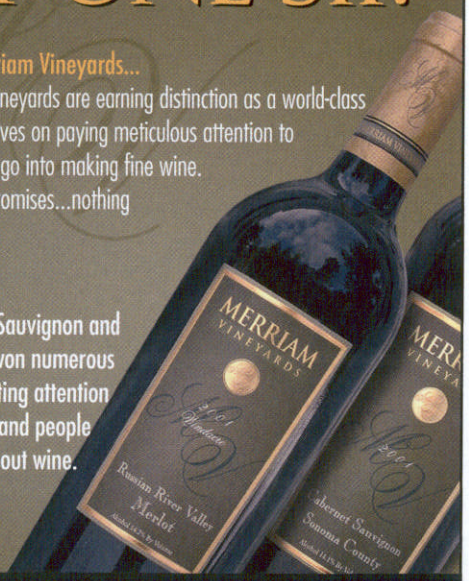
Contact JoAnn at 603-674-8991 or email jbellagrande@aol.com
or visit tasteoftheseacoast.com

JUST ONE SIP.

Open a bottle of Merriam Vineyards...
and discover why our vineyards are earning distinction as a world-class winery. We pride ourselves on paying meticulous attention to the endless details that go into making fine wine.
No shortcuts...no compromises...nothing mass-produced.

The result?
Our Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc have won numerous awards and are attracting attention from critics, collectors and people who are passionate about wine.

Enjoy!




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### Hall

*hallwines.com*

Proprietor Kathryn Walt Hall got her start in the wine industry managing her family's vineyard in Mendocino, California. Trained as an attorney, her career has included a stint as the U.S. Ambassador to Austria. Today she and her husband, Craig Hall, have created one of the most beautiful wineries in Napa Valley and some of the best wines in the world. Hall was the first LEED gold-certified winery in California and practices organic farming, producing Sauvignon Blanc, Merlot, and a group of powerful Cabernet Sauvignons that have won many accolades. The Cabernet Sauvignon is full-bodied, with soft tannins in the glass with scents of cherry, chocolate, and spice along with flavors of blueberry, cassis, anise, and chocolate. Hall has two locations: The St. Helena winery is open daily for tours; the Rutherford location, open by appointment only, produces rare wines in 14,000 square feet of caves showcasing the winery's art collection.

### Mumm Napa

*mummnapa.com*




Kick off a wine country day with a glass of sparkling wine, Mumm Napa's specialty. Take time to learn how bubbly wines are made. Mumm tours are fun and informative. Walk through a fine photography gallery and complete your tour sitting on the patio soaking up the Napa sunshine with a glass of Mumm Brut Rosé. Vines from French roots producing California fruit make for a superb Champagne-style sparkling wine with tiny bubbles and complex tastes. The vintage wines showcase the best of each year's harvest. Any event is a celebration with Mumm Napa 2001 DVX (named for founder Guy DeVaux), a delicate and creamy sparkling wine with aromas of vanilla, butterscotch, and oak spice followed by green apple, peach, and fresh raspberry flavors and a long, refreshing aftertaste with endless bubbles.



### Raymond Vineyards

*raymondvineyards.com*

One of Napa Valley's great estates, founded in 1970, Raymond Vineyards is situated in Rutherford, the heart of Napa Valley. The property was purchased in 2009 by Jean-Charles Boisset and is now part of the Boisset Family Estates collection of wineries, which includes several in France, as well as Canada, California's Russian River Valley, and, as of this past spring, Buena Vista Carneros, a historic winery in Sonoma. Boisset is committed to honoring Raymond's legacy while creating and adding his own personal style. You'll find new packaging; improved wine styles from noted winemakers and select vineyards; and a renovated property with a gorgeous decanting room featuring a Baccarat chandelier and crystal. Boisset is devoted to sustainable, organic, and biodynamic farming. Raymond wines include several notable Cabernets.