



## A Day of Wine Tasting + Hiking at Bartholomew Park in Sonoma

By [Chas Blackford](#) | Oct 10, 2016

Before you set out to hike [Bartholomew Park](#), a decision must be made: taste first, hike later, or hike first, taste later. Personally, we're partial to a taste, hike, taste again combo, but however you arrange your day at Sonoma's Bartholomew Park, prepare your senses for a nature and vino overload.

Founded in 1994 by the Bundschu family (who own California's oldest family winery, nearby Gundlach Bundschu) Bartholomew Park produces handcrafted, site-specific wines. Spend your time post-hike in their tasting room. Well behaved dogs on leash are also welcome.

### What You'll See

A restored villa, originally built in 1861 by [Count Agoston Haraszthy \(considered to be the "father of California viticulture" and the founder of nearby Buena Vista Winery\)](#), is surrounded by manicured grounds and sweeping views of the Sonoma Valley. Picnic tables are scattered about for post-hike picnics. On the slopes of the Mayacamas Mountains you'll find majestic, second-growth redwood groves, a hidden pond, and some surprisingly challenging trails.

## The Hike

At just 2.5 miles, the hike isn't long (although there are other trails to extend it), but it's the 450 feet of elevation that makes it challenging. Good hiking shoes are a must; leave the flip-flops and sandals for après le trek.

6. Passing through a couple of gates, the trail enters a dense thicket above a hidden creek—you'll catch fleeting views of nearby [Buena Vista Winery](#). As you pass through the last gate you'll come upon a lovely grassy area with a small pavilion showcasing historical displays from when the park was an industrial farm for wayward women back in the 1920s.