

DAILY SECRET

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FOLLOWING THE WINE ROUTE

5 vineyards you may not know, but totally should

BY SHARON MCDONNELL



Love the grape? Eager to try some wine regions beyond big, bold names like Burgundy and Napa? Harvest season is the perfect time to visit hidden gems. We rounded up five must-visit destinations for any oenophile.

SONOMA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA



BUENA VISTA WINERY VIA [FACEBOOK](#)

What does Sonoma have that Napa, its next-door neighbor, doesn't? A more laid-back attitude, a sea coast, and organic farms producing cheese and other foods (in addition to more than 400 wineries, all 45 minutes north of San Francisco). Explore tasting rooms around the plaza in the tiny town of Healdsburg, and check out The Barlow in Sebastopol, a marketplace of winemakers, brewers and artists. During Sonoma Wine Country Weekend September 4-6, taste wines from more than 200 wineries in regions like the Russian River Valley and Alexander Valley, and nibble food from 60-plus chefs in tents. There are also barbecues, dinners and starlit parties at wineries such as Francis Ford Coppola (yes, the director of *The Godfather* — we highly recommend the claret); Gloria Ferrer, a maker of sparkling wines; and Buena Vista Winery, founded in 1857 by the Hungarian-born "Father of California Wine," who introduced hundreds of European grapes to the state.