

## 5 Cozy Wineries For A Wine Country Escape

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There is much charm to be found in [Napa](#) and [Sonoma](#) during the colder months. In the off season, the crowds thin out and wineries offer more personalized attention to visitors with intimate offerings that are ideal for smaller groups. And who doesn't love a glass of perfectly balanced pinot noir after a brisk walk through the dormant vines or a chilly barrel room?

If you're wondering which places specialize in cozy winter tastings, allow this roster of wine-country winners to get you all warm and fuzzy.

### **Buena Vista**

Dating back to 1857, Buena Vista is one of Sonoma's oldest and most storied wineries. It was founded by Agoston Haraszthy, a self-proclaimed count who came to California during the gold rush.

In 2011, Jean-Charles Boisset, a French winemaker whose flamboyance and charm mimics the count's, purchased the winery. Today, the winery's rich history is reflected throughout the property. A maze showcases important aspects of the count's life, plus there is a collection of vintage winemaking tools inside the old barrel room.

During the winter, book the Bubble Lounge experience. This tasting, which is not listed on the website, involves a tour of the barrel room and champagne cellars. It's capped off by pours of bubbly from Boisset's selection of sparklers in the Bubble Lounge, a large room with wooden ceilings, stone walls and all-white, sumptuous decor. Relax in deco-inspired cream velvet chairs or snap a selfie next to a taxidermied bear. Chilly? The room is filled with vintage furs, and you are invited to try them on.

Be sure to sample the La Victorie Reserve Brut Champagne, a blend of pinot and chardonnay grapes specially selected for the winery.