

sonoma weddings

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SONOMA SPARKLERS

*Pop the county's best bubbly
for your big day*

by Linda Murphy
photography by Doug Oakley

Pricy Champagne is traditional, while buoyantly effervescent Prosecco is all the rage and far less expensive. Cava from Spain, cremant from Burgundy and Alsace, and New World bubbly from Oregon, New York, Australia, and New Zealand all add dimension to the sparkling wine scene.

Yet a wedding in Sonoma calls for Sonoma sparkling wines, the best of which deliver Champagne-like quality and depth at a fraction of the price. Vibrantly fruity, expressive, and impressive, local bubbly is so good that those getting hitched in Sonoma should consider nothing else. Marry Sonoma, drink Sonoma.



Buena Vista Winery's BUBBLE LOUNGE

If bubbles are your thing and you just can't wait till the wedding, consider a pre-wedding celebration at Buena Vista Winery's Bubble Lounge, housed in the winery's Champagne cellar. The lounge's sumptuous décor, complete with tufted couches and crystal chandeliers, evokes a Roaring Twenties mood that will easily match the high spirits of an engagement soiree or girls' night out. Reservations required; call 800-926-1266.

Buena Vista Winery, 18000 Old Winery Road, Sonoma, buenavistawinery.com



SERVING YOUR SPARKLERS WITH STYLE

While we still love mason jars as much as anyone, many Sonoma couples are choosing a more refined way to serve wedding sparklers: vintage glassware. Brides can unearth delicate cut-glass beauties and old-fashioned champagne coupes at thrift stores and flea markets, bringing color and personality to their tables. "I love the look for parties and weddings. Mismatched coupes are really fun, and they're exciting to collect," says Jayme Powers, proprietor of SIGH., a champagne and sparkling wine bar in Sonoma. Companies such as Williams-Sonoma and BHLDN are even reissuing vintage glassware designs in modern palettes (williams-sonoma.com; bhldn.com). And if you're not into the hunt, you can source these styles from vintage rental companies.

Another throwback trend a 1920s-era bride might recognize: champagne towers. Not those ever-running fountains (all that churning ruins the bubbles, and the taste) but an elegant stack of vintage-style coupes filled in a cascade from the top. Ask your caterer or look up directions online to re-create the look. It's sure to get your reception guests on their feet, especially when paired with a magnum of local sparkling wine.

—Abigail Peterson



photo [bottom left] courtesy Boisset Collection

Resource Guide

From photographers to floral designers, thousands of professionals across the greater Bay Area offer services for wine country weddings. For our Resource Guide, we've focused on Sonoma County, with some top businesses from San Francisco and outside the Bay Area, too.

Venues

- Annadel Estate Winery**
annadelestatewinery.com
- B.R. Cohn Winery & Olive Oil**
brcohn.com
- The Barlow**
thebarlow.net
- Bloomfield Farms**
bloomfieldevents.com
- Bodega Harbour Yacht Club**
bodegaharbourgolf.com/openhouse
- Buena Vista Winery**
buenavistawinery.com
- Calderwood Inn**
calderwoodinn.com
- Chateau St. Jean**
chateaustjean.com
- Cline Cellars**
clinecellars.com

On a beautiful day in May, photographer Megan Clouse captured these images of a homey and heartfelt celebration at Healdsburg Country Gardens.



- CornerStone Sonoma**
cornerstonesonoma.com
- de Lorimier Winery**
delorimierwinery.com
- The Depot Hotel Restaurant & Garden**
depotsonoma.com
- El Dorado Hotel & Kitchen [Receptions only]**
eldoradosonoma.com
- Essence Sonoma**
weddingsonomacounty.com
- The Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn & Spa**
fairmont.com/sonoma/meetings-weddings
- Flying Cloud Farm**
flyingcloudfarm.com
- Fountaingrove Inn**
fountaingroveinn.com
- Garden Valley Ranch**
gardenvalley.com
- The General's Daughter**
thegeneralsdaughter.com
- Gloria Ferrer Caves & Vineyards**
gloriaferrer.com
- Grape Leaf Inn**
grapeleafinn.com
- Gundlach Bundschu Winery**
gunbun.com
- Hamel Family Wines**
hamelfamilywines.com
- Healdsburg County Gardens [Open May-October]**
hcgweddings.com
- Iron Horse Vineyards**
ironhorsevineyards.com
- Jack London State Historic Park**
jacklondonpark.com
- Jacuzzi Family Vineyards**
jacuzziwines.com
- K Venues**
kvenues.com
- Kenwood Community Church**
kenwoodcommunitychurch.com
- Kenwood Inn & Spa**
kenwoodinn.com
- Korbel Champagne Cellars**
korbel.com
- Kunde Family Winery**
kunde.com
- Ledson Winery & Vineyards**
ledson.com
- The Lodge at Sonoma**
marriott.com/hotels/travel/sfols-the-lodge-at-sonoma-renaissance-resort-and-spa
- MacArthur Place Hotel & Spa**
macarthurplace.com
- Madrona Manor**
madronamanor.com
- Mayacama**
mayacama.com
- Mayo Family Winery**
mayofamilywinery.com
- Oakmont Golf Club**
weddingsinsonoma.com
- Olympia's Valley Estate [Open May-October]**
olympiasvalley.com
- Paradise Ridge—Byck Family Winery**
prwinery.com
- Pezzi King Vineyards**
pezziking.com
- Ramekins Culinary School, Events & Inn**
ramekins.com
- Rockpile Ranch**
rockpilevineyard.com
- Runningwood Sonoma**
runningwood.org
- Sbragia Family Vineyards**
sbragia.com
- Schramsberg Vineyards**
schramsberg.com
- Sebastiani Vineyards & Winery**
sebastiani.com
- SIGH. Sonoma**
sighsonoma.com
- Soda Rock Winery**
sodarockwinery.com
- St. Francis Winery & Vineyards**
stfranciswinery.com
- Thomas George Estates**
thomasgeorgeestates.com
- Trentadue Winery**
trentadue.com
- Trione Vineyards and Winery**
trionewinery.com
- The Union Hotel Occidental**
unionhoteloccidental.com
- Viansa Winery & Marketplace**
viansa.com
- The Villa Restaurant & Bar**
thevillarestaurant.com