



1881 Napa – Gateway to Napa food and local wines tasting



When heading into Napa Valley, you are usually in search of good wine, great food, fun times. Jean-Charles Boisset, a well-known French vintner, hopes to fulfill your desires. His vehicle, the [1881 Napa Valley](#) Wine History Museum and tasting room, also includes the [Oakville Grocery Store](#).

Boisset, a long-time resident of Napa, is passionate about history and terroir and it may explain why he bought this complex built in 1881. You will discover an original 19th century grocery store, a wine tasting room and a patio completed with an outdoor pizza oven. The environment is inviting, comfortable, and sophisticated. A great way to while away some time.

We recommend that you start the journey by discovering local wines:



Napa Valley was the first AVA (American Viticultural Areas aka Appellation of Origin) designated in California in 1981. Within the region are 16 sub-AVAs that contain more geological diversity than any other wine region, leading to dramatically different wines all within Napa Valley. This is what Boisset wants you to experience while renovating this Victorian house and featuring the Napa Wine History Museum.

Invest some time reviewing the appropriate tasting options: flights such as “Majestic Mountains Versus Plush Valley” and “Is it Cool to be Hot or Hot to be Cool?” as well as an option to “Embark on a Journey Throughout the Valley” by tasting Cabernet Sauvignons from 12 different sub-AVAs.

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In addition to the site-specific Cabernets, you can enjoy wines from a blend of Napa Valley grapes, including sparkling wine, Sauvignon Blanc, rosé, Chardonnay, red blend, Merlot and a Cabernet Sauvignon — all wines crafted exclusively for 1881 Napa to reflect the diversity of Napa Valley.

The wine tasting takes place on the ground floor of the 1881 Napa house, while the mezzanine displays a robust collection of wine paraphernalia, including historic winemaking, vineyard, nursery, and cooperage tools featuring local historic wine artifacts and early commercials.



Then go for the grocery store

After having sampled a broad range of Napa Valley styles, you will hopefully have discovered which AVAs you like the most. It's time to cross the patio and enter the Oakville Grocery Store.

The charm operates as soon as you enter the oldest continually operating grocery store in California.

Completely renovated, it has nevertheless kept its rural charm and contains all you can dream about Napa Valley products... cheese, sweets, locally roasted coffee, take-out food and, of course, a great local wines selection.

Take your time

When you have decided if you finally want to sample the pizza from the patio or a sample other choices, order, sit and enjoy.

This is a great way to kick start your Napa Valley experience...the wines, the foods, the fun to come.

Address : 1881 Napa – 7856 St. Helena Highway in Oakville – Opened daily from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Reservations are recommended and can be made [here](#).

Merci Jean-Charles Boisset