

SFGATE

Sip, sparkle, pop! 5 spots to imbibe on Sonoma bubbly tour

Michelle Locke, Associated Press Updated 6:55 am, Tuesday, September 5, 2017



SONOMA, Calif. (AP) — It's 11 a.m. on a Monday morning, which seems like an excellent time to be sitting on a sun-splashed patio, gazing out at dappled green vineyards and surrounded by big bottles of tiny bubbles.

But I didn't need to travel to the Champagne region of France for this trip. I'm in Sonoma County, just an hour or so north of San Francisco, and a region that's on the rise in the fizz firmament.

Here's a guide to discovering Sonoma's brut forces.

BUENA VISTA WINERY

Buena Vista Winery was founded in 1857 by the self-proclaimed "Count of Buena Vista," Agoston Haraszthy, a larger-than-life character and innovative vintner. Today, the winery has been reimagined under the guidance of Jean-Charles Boisset of the French Boisset winemaking family. Buena Vista is known for a variety of still wines but has a strong bubbles component, producing excellent sparkling white and rose wines. Also available is the La Victoire Brut Champagne which is imported from France. Enjoy your tasting in the Bubbles Lounge, where you can sink into the comfort of blonde velvet couches. Open daily 10 a.m.-5 p.m. except major holidays, 18000 Old Winery Rd., Sonoma, 800-926-1266,

<http://www.buenavistawinery.com> .

