



## Wine 101: American Wine Regions: Sonoma Deep Dive

On this episode of "Wine 101," VinePair's tastings director Keith Beavers recounts his recent trip to Sonoma, one of the largest wine regions in the country. Beavers talks about the vineyards he visited and the wines they produce, restaurants in nearby towns, and the sense of community throughout Sonoma. Tune in to learn more.



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**Keith Beavers:** My name is Keith Beavers and I know that every place in the country has its own specific thing that's important. Like New Jersey, it has the best bagels ever.

What's going on, wine lovers? Welcome to VinePair's "Wine 101" podcast. Adam Teeter, CEO of VinePair, and I went to <u>Sonoma and Napa</u> for a week to get a deep dive into these amazingly famous regions to see what it's like being there and drinking there. Let's deep dive.

So that's what Sonoma is. It's an incredibly geographically diverse place. It's very large, it has a lot of wine regions, but every single wine region that is in all 18 of them are there for a reason. And the wines that come out of these AVAs are special because of that. To be in Sonoma is to actually bop around and kind of explore the place. Sonoma, the downtown area, the square, the famous square is almost an hour southeast of Healdsburg. That kind of gives you a sense of how

big this place is. But this is where it all began. Before we left Sonoma, I was really adamant that I wanted to go to <u>Buena Vista Winery</u>, the <u>winery that Agaston Haraszathy began</u> all the way back in the day, beginning this whole thing. And I must say, when you go to Buena Vista, a lot of people call it the biggest tourist attraction in Sonoma. It is a tourist attraction. His land is there. His topiary that he built for his wife is there. The buildings are there. There's a guy walking around with a red sash and he looks a little bit like Agaston Haraszathy. I bought a bobblehead of Agaston Haraszathy in the gift shop. But that doesn't matter because if you go to Buena Vista Winery, which is just a little bit off the square in Sonoma, you're standing in the beginnings of American wine history. So it doesn't matter if it's cheesy or not. It's amazing.