

San Jose Mercury News

3 great dog-friendly wineries in Napa Valley

By Mary Orlin

POSTED: 11/17/2015



With its vine-covered hills and serene blue skies, Napa Valley is an idyllic getaway. This pastoral setting seems the perfect playground for furry, four-legged friends, as well as their favorite humans -- and it is.

Across the valley, about 120 wineries roll out the red carpet for Fido with goodies and other perks. We've scoped out a doggone good day at three wineries, including lunch along the way, where you can eat, drink and play with your canine companion.

FRENCHIE WINERY

Napa Valley's first pup-friendly winery catering exclusively to dogs, Frenchie Winery at Raymond Vineyards is a doggy palace, where furry friends are treated like royalty. No lavish detail is spared at this doggy day care (no canine winemaking or sipping here), right down to the cushioned wine-barrel dog beds.

This extravagant doggy domaine was inspired by Frenchie, Raymond's resident bulldog. Pet owners can enjoy a visit at the Raymond winery as their precious pooch makes new friends, living large at Frenchie's. They can even check in on the fun via the Frenchie Cam, a live video stream, in the tasting room.

Did we mention that Frenchie has his own wine label? Of course he does. Human companions can sample the 2013 Marie Antoinette Chardonnay (\$20) or 2013 Napoleon Cabernet Sauvignon (\$30).

The details: A dog day at Frenchie's is complimentary. Wine tasting flights (for humans) are \$25. Open daily at 849 Zinfandel Lane, St. Helena; www.frenchiewinery.com.