

thecrush
POOCHATEAUS

WHERE TO GET YOUR WAG ON

Our favorite dog-friendly wineries.

BY PAUL GREGUTT



Tablas Creek



CALIFORNIA

Alexander Valley Vineyards, Healdsburg

While you and your best friend can visit year-round, in 2015 the winery is hosting its inaugural wine, food-and-Fido extravaganza called “AVV Going to the Dogs,” which will benefit Sonoma County Animal Care and Control. Each dog may bring up to four humans. Check avvwine.com for dates.

THE MUST-TRY WINE: Redemption Zinfandel

Frenchie Winery, St. Helena

Within seconds of stepping into the winery, you’ll understand the source of its name. That’s because owner Jean-Charles Boisset’s French bulldog “Frenchie” can be seen everywhere—from the art on the walls to the labels on the bottles. In bold, baroque-style oil paintings, the pooch is portrayed as Louis XIV, Betsy Ross and Ben Franklin. Dogs are encouraged to romp outside, or curl up on the dog beds made from wine barrels.

THE MUST-TRY WINE: Louis XIV Cabernet Sauvignon



Frenchie

Mutt Lynch Winery, Windsor

This winery’s motto is “Bark Less, Wag More!” and provides toys and healthy treats to all the tail-waggers. On the second Friday of every month, it hosts Yappy Hour, a wine-and-food fête whose proceeds go to several local animal charities.

THE MUST-TRY WINE: Portrait of a Mutt Red



Saracina

Saracina Vineyards, Hopland

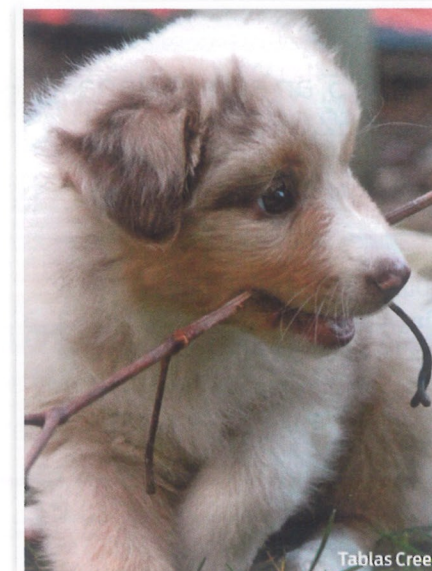
This family-owned, certified organic, dog-friendly winery hosts an Earth Day dog hike and picnic (April 25). It begins with a four-mile trek among the rolling hills of the 600-acre Saracina Ranch, and ends with a casual wine country picnic lunch and tasting with owner John Fetzer.

THE MUST-TRY WINE: Unoaked Chardonnay

Tablas Creek, Paso Robles

“We’ve always been dog-friendly, with water bowl set up outside, treats and friendly winery dogs to play with,” says Jason Haas, the winery’s general manager. Sit on the shaded patio where you and Rover can relax over lunch.

THE MUST-TRY WINE: Côtes de Tablas



Tablas Creek



NEW YORK

Americana Vineyards, Interlaken

A 19th-century barn serves as both tasting room and café for this Finger Lakes gem, where guests are greeted by Max and Rubie, a pair of chocolate labs. The winery sponsors several festivals and has an ongoing concert series.

THE MUST-TRY WINE: Dry Riesling



OREGON

Ankeny Vineyards, Salem

Ankeny’s open-door dog policy is almost as famous as its award-winning Pinot Noir. Sip some of the best Willamette Valley wine and take in the views of the valley while your dog roams free.

THE MUST-TRY WINE: Reserve Pinot Noir



Barrel Oak Winery



VIRGINIA

Barrel Oak Winery, Delaplane

The initials (BOW) are the first clue that this is a dog-loving bunch. On weekends, the winery’s sprawling grounds are bustling with picnickers, so leashes are strongly advised for those dogs with a penchant for wandering off.

THE MUST-TRY WINE: Bowhaus White



WASHINGTON STATE

William Grassie Wine Estates, Fall City

This winery has a summer tasting room a short distance from Snoqualmie Falls. There are four acres of gardens and a small vineyard on the property, where dogs are welcome to run free.

THE MUST-TRY WINE: Courageux