

Top 5 Wineries to Visit in Napa Valley

By Katy · On November 6, 2017

Once you take a trip to the wineries in Napa Valley, your life will never be the same – and you'll want to return time and time again. Having just gotten back from Napa Valley, that's exactly how I feel – as I immersed myself in the Napa lifestyle, complete with great food and fine wine, of course. But Napa is not all about the food and wine, it's about the people, too. Their passion for the industry, their laid-back vibe, their welcoming demeanor – all make for an unforgettable experience.

While the trips to wine country and the wineries in Napa Valley are fantastic, the planning part can sometimes be a bit overwhelming. How do you narrow your itinerary down from 400+ wineries? – because I know that you want to visit them all. Do you visit the large well-known wineries or opt for the boutique ones? How many should you visit in one day? And, transportation? We suggest getting a driver.

Where do you get started? Well, I turned to my colleague, Monty Preiser, proprietor of Shadowbox Wines – and the publisher of the [Preiser Key](#) to Napa Valley (basically the go-to guidebook on where to go in Napa). For you, we've put together some of our favorites that you need to add to your itinerary.



Raymond Vineyards

849 Zinfandel Lane, St. Helena, CA; 707.963.6946

raymondvineyards.com

boissetcollection.com

Private Winery Tour & Tasting: \$55

For an all-encompassing experience, head to Raymond Vineyards in St. Helena. This historical family-owned winery had their first vintage crush in 1974 and continues to produce elegant wines with deep roots in Napa Valley. While time has passed and Raymond Vineyards is now part of the Boisset Collection, Jean Charles Boisset keeps with the family's traditions, while continuing to elevate the brand. Raymond Vineyards is a self-sustaining farm, it uses organic and Biodynamic farming practices; offers educational opportunities – from the corridor of senses to offering a 'Be a Winemaker for a Day' experience; and adds a bit of Jean Charles Boisset's eccentric tastes to the mix. For our tasting, we were greeted with a glass of rosé, enjoyed a tour of the property – both inside and out, did a private tasting of four reds and were treated to a few extra surprises.