



Look No Further — Here's our Napa Valley Itinerary

By Anna Maria Gianbanco DiPietro

In an area that is just five miles across and 30 miles long, boasting over 400 wineries that welcome visitors, Napa Valley truly is the crown jewel of wine tourism in the U.S. And, while it's known for consistently producing outstanding wines, Napa is also home to a slew of Michelin-starred restaurants, luxurious lodging, a diverse array of spas and boutiques, and a vibrant arts and culture scene.

Whether you're planning your first trip to the region or would like to revisit and fall in love with Napa Valley all over again, there are myriad ways for every palate, personality, preference, and pocketbook to experience Napa Valley. Of course, it's a perfect place to stroll, sip, and see where the day takes you. We've simply compiled some options to help get you started — whether you're in the mood for food trucks or Michelin experiences, Cabernet or Chardonnay, hiking or spa-ing — happy Napa Valley planning!

Where to Sip

We'd be remiss if we didn't touch on <u>wine tastings</u>! With hundreds of wineries and tasting rooms to choose from, there are many ways to experience the incredible wines grown and produced in Napa Valley. Whether you're in the mood for a rustic, more intimate tasting or want to experience the wow factor of an OG Napa Valley vineyard, there are plenty of options. Keep in mind that in most cases, you should make a reservation for tastings at least one week in advance, and tasting fees vary depending on the winery, but are customarily waived if purchasing a bottle during the experience. <u>Here</u> are some additional helpful pointers that will help you plan your wine-tasting outing.

Eco-conscious in Calistoga: Larkmead Vineyards

Larkmead Vineyards is one of the oldest family-owned establishments in Napa Valley — much of the property has been under vine since the mid-1800s. Today, it's under the stewardship of the Solari-Baker family, and winemaker Avery Heelan produces small lots of nuanced, complex wines. They're Napa Green Certified, which means adhering to social equity, justice, and inclusion standards, as well as committing to sustainability and regenerative practices in the vineyard and winemaking facility. Be sure to check out their Tocai Friulano and Firebelle red blend.

