

## Napa Valley Wines & Wineries

*Visit California - November, 2023*

*Where to find top vineyards in Napa wine country.*



Think Napa Valley, and most wine lovers think Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnay. Indeed, the Napa Valley is a single appellation, or AVA (American Viticultural Area). Yet within its borders reside 16 sub-appellations, each with its own distinctive microclimate, and often, its own signature grapes.

Many wineries here have deep roots as pioneer vineyards, showcasing Napa Valley's longstanding commitment to premium grapes. Just a few examples: **Larkmead**, producers of some of Napa's most celebrated Cabernet Sauvignons, can trace its history back to 1895; Mayacamas Vineyards is comprised of a stone building, which in 1889 was carved into the side of a dormant volcano crater on Mount Veeder (happily, that historic building survived the 2017 wine country wildfires). Sinegal Estate was once a St. Helena Pony Express stop, then the historic Inglewood Estate, before being bought and completely renovated by new owners in 2015. Beaulieu Vineyards, founded in 1900 and housed in a building that dates to 1885, managed to flourish during Prohibition, when so many Napa vineyards were forced to shutter, thanks to their contract to provide sacramental wines to the Catholic Church. And some wineries have brought their own sense of history: Calistoga's Castello di Amorosa, owned by Dario Sattui, makes Italian-inspired reds in a sprawling, 13th-century-style castle.

### More Things to Do in Napa Valley

For more ideas on how to spend your time during a visit here, check out [Special Tours in Napa Valley](#), [Napa Valley Luxury Lodgings](#), [Ideas for a Solo Trip to Napa and Sonoma](#), and [Napa Valley State & City Parks](#). To discover some of the valley's more under-the-radar gems, visit [So You Think You Know the Napa Valley?](#)