



Mud City Weekender

ALL THINGS CALISTOGA

JULY 2014



PHOTO BY PAT HAMPTON

Roam Antiques opens its doors to world's treasures

<i>What to do when kids are grown?</i>	5	<i>Celtic Cards : Pisces you are overwhelmed!</i>	6	<i>Calistoga makes Top 10 list – twice!</i>	7	<i>New 'Roam Antiques' opens</i>	11	<i>Calistoga wineries map & guide</i>	22
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Calistoga – The West’s Original Hot Springs Resort Town

Welcome to Mud City

What to do when the kids are grown? 5

Dr. Clay and Brenda Cockerell started a Calistoga winery specializing in Sauvignon Blanc

Celtic Cards tell your future 6

Pisces: “Overwhelmed” is an understatement at this time.

Calistoga makes Top 10 list – twice! 7

No. 2 for most expensive place to stay in California, one of Top 10 Best Small Towns in USA

New antiques store opens doors 11

Mario Sculatti and friends search the world for hard-to-find treasures

Free summer concerts in the park 14

Time to let your hair down and dance, eat, and toast the summer music series!

Seasons in the Vineyard 15

Quick notes on what’s happening in the vineyard right now

Things to do, places to go 16

There is a lot more to Calistoga tan sippin’, spaain’ and sippin’, and here’s proof!

Uncorking fun wine facts 21

How many pounds of grapes in a bottle of wine?

Calistoga Wineries & Map 22

Some of the valley’s best wines are made right here – check it out!



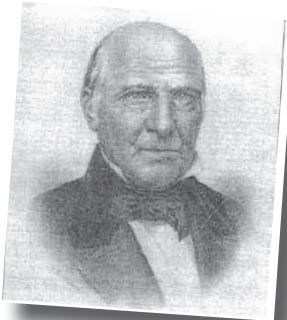
5



11



14



15

Welcome to the Mud City Weekender, your best guide to all things Calistoga



Sam Brannan
Founder
of Calistoga

You have come to the right spot, to this town of Calistoga, if you are looking for a place to slow down, relax, put up your feet and enjoy life.

In the *Mud City Weekender* we offer you some insights into Calistoga and hope you get to know us a little bit better, through our restaurants, shops, wineries and spas. After all, isn't that what drew you here in the first place?

But remember, we're not just another stop in the wine country. We're our own unique little version of heaven, filled with local characters and quirky personalities – all of them calling out a big Calistoga welcome!

Visit our spas, wineries, restaurants and shops. Take time for the Sharpsteen Museum. Go on a hot air balloon ride and see us from the clouds. Find out why Calistoga is

a special place in our hearts as well as yours.

We started the *Mud City Weekender* almost 13 years ago to help visitors discover Calistoga during their stay here. Tired of all the slick, glossy magazines that tout Napa Valley but seem to stop short of coming this far north, we wanted to bring our town to the center of your attention by writing just about our wineries, our events, our history.

That's why not only will you find stories about wine and mud and food, but you'll find tidbits about our community and its history, too.

Small businesses keep the heart of Calistoga beating, and without them this would just be another bedroom community without that spark of life our business community brings. Thanks for coming, and come back and visit anytime. We'll be here to welcome you home.

—Pat Hampton, Publisher



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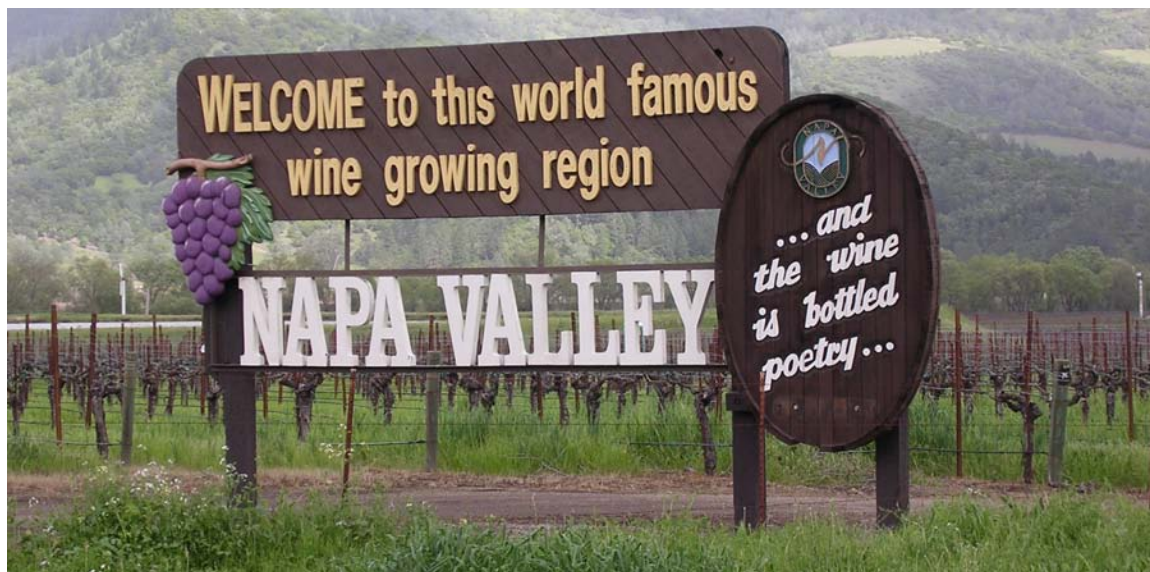
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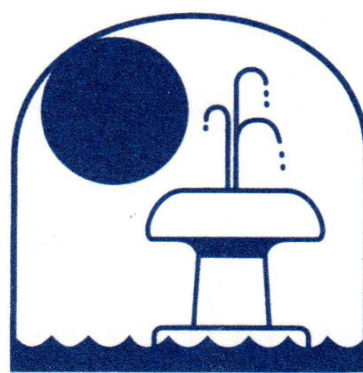
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What to do when the kids are grown?

Make wine of course!

By Tony Poer

MUD CITY WEEKENDER

On their surface, the cities of Bordeaux and Dallas would appear to have little in common.

The French port city is celebrated for its Cabernet and Merlot grands vins, while the north Texas metropolis is famous for Cowboys and ten-gallon hats. Here in Calistoga, the two places happen to share a delightful connection that, fittingly, has nothing to do with Cabernet or cowboys.

When Brenda and Clay Cockerell toured the vineyards of Bordeaux in 2005 to celebrate a wedding anniversary, the Abilene, Texas natives were already fans and collectors of wines from the region. But a visit to the renowned Château Haut-Brion in the Pessac-Léognan district, during which their generous host opened a bottle of the estate's rare white wine, Haut-Brion Blanc, inspired the Cockerells after returning home to plant stakes—literally—in another wine region they loved, Napa Valley.

"I love the Bordeaux white

wines," said Brenda Cockerell on a recent phone call from her Dallas home. "So we were talking about it at the time—we still have a daughter who's in high school but she'll graduate in two years—and we were thinking, you know, 'What do we want to do when ever our kids are gone?'"

"There may have been someone doing it, though we weren't aware of it at the time, but we wanted to make a Bordeaux-style wine in the Napa Valley. About that time, since we decided we were really committed to it, the Napa Valley Reserve was just beginning, and we joined it."

Brenda mentioned the private club in St. Helena that has wine-making as its signature amenity, the way other clubs offer golf or tennis. It's an only-in-Napa phenomenon, to be sure.

"We were spending more time in California, and we were just



PHOTO BY BEVERLY DRIVE

Clay and Brenda Cockerell (above) of Dallas, Texas started Coquerel Wines with Christine Barbe (right) as their winemaker.



committed to making wine."

A medical doctor in Dallas, Clay Cockerell is one of the United States' leading dermatopathologists and a former president of the American Association of Dermatology. Through a friendship with a fellow physician at the club, he and his wife were directed up-valley to a vineyard property for sale.

"As it turned out," Brenda explained, "there was this property in Calistoga that was part of an original, very large parcel, and some of the areas had been sold over the years. They were growers, and the grandmother had recently passed away. The parcel that was remaining was a dry-farmed Sauvignon Blanc vineyard. It was planted around the time of World War II. It's a very old vineyard. It just seemed like it was a perfect place for us."

Nine years later, she and Clay are the busy proprietors of Coquerel Family Wine Estates, a diversely planted pair of vineyards just off Highway 128 near Tubbs

Lane. The Sauvignon Blanc they've produced since 2006 is one of Napa Valley's best efforts with the grape variety that also comprises much of Bordeaux's white wine, including that scarce Haut-Brion Blanc.

"We think they compare very favorably," Brenda said, adding with a laugh, "though Château Haut-Brion may not agree."

Like Haut-Brion and other wineries in Bordeaux, the Cockerells actually produce two Sauvignon Blanc bottlings: the "first" wine is their oak-aged, Pessac-style flagship, called Terroir Coquerel to reflect the unique climate and dirt of the Calistoga AVA and, in particular, their vineyard's Sauvignon-friendly soil of clay and stones; Le Petit Coquerel, the "second" wine, sees no oak aging and is produced from younger estate vines supplemented by grapes grown in a mature Yountville vineyard.

Most experienced Napa Valley winemakers know that Texan wine enthusiasts can be relied

upon to spread the big, rich Napa Cabernet gospel. So Brenda and Clay's focus on dry, grassy-minerally white wine has made them a bit of an outlier couple.

Acknowledging this, Brenda stated flatly: "Sauvignon blanc is my very favorite wine in the world. I love the style of those wines."

"We're small, and there are so many amazing wines in the Napa Valley. And we feel what we want to do is distinguish ourselves as doing something that is fantastic but a little different. Because why would you want to do something that's already being done in such a magnificent way? It's just fighting upstream. So we're just really trying to create our own reputation."

The Bordeaux model has helped animate the Coquerel project, from the archaic French spelling of the Cockerell family surname down to the green glass claret bottles they use for the

See COQUEREL on page 8

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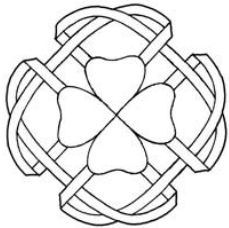


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Celtic Cards

by M. Antoine JULY 2014



Aries

March 21-April 19

Issues will arise regarding your home environment this month. Whatever happens, the outcome will be the best in the long run. Stand your ground where your beliefs are concerned. YOU are also entitled to your opinion. Love and support is always there from that special person.

Taurus

April 20-May 20

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. You may want to get your vision checked over a certain situation that has you not seeing clearly. Get more information before making a commitment, or making a fool of yourself. You can always back away and save face.

Gemini

May 21-June 20

Something you gave a long time ago may come back to you. The person you gave it to no longer needs it, and would prefer to give it back rather than give it away to a stranger. A short trip of a few days is a possibility this month. You know you need the rest and relaxation, so enjoy yourself.

Cancer

June 21-July 22

An older male will play a very important role in your life this month. It may be a father figure or someone you look up to. Remember that good advice is always welcomed, but you do not need the opinions of others forced on you. Listen to your inner voice.

Leo

July 23-August 22

Your financial situation could do with a review. A great investment offer needs to be scrutinized before any steps are taken. If it seems too good to be true it probably is. Family will be very inquisitive this month, and you will need to set firm limits where personal issues are concerned.

Virgo

August 23-September 22

Change is happening faster than you can deal with it. Deadlines are approaching, and you feel overwhelmed at the possible outcome of pending events. Take care of what you know you can, and leave the rest until you can get to it or it is resolved by itself. Support is always there for you.

Libra

September 23-October 22

Your home situation is about to change in a positive way. It may seem overwhelming at first but the outcome will be a joyous surprise. Look for a financial break that will lift a long carried burden from your shoulders. It is time to re-kindle an old friendship.

Scorpio

October 23-November 21

Creative juices are flowing this month. It is time to finish that project you started a long time ago, and then begin something else. Making an object out of wood or fiber will get you in touch with your feelings, and give you a more positive attitude towards nature. Come on...Get started.

Sagittarius

November 22-December 21

Strength is your key word this month. You will need it to handle a family situation, but it will be there for you to draw upon. Approach a younger person with gentleness instead of a heavy-handed attitude, as there are a lot of fragile emotions that need an understanding and sympathetic shoulder. Remember when YOU were that age.

Capricorn

December 22-January 19

Something magical is in the works for you this month. There will be a new lease on life that will keep you buoyant and energized for a long time ahead. A business or romantic relationship will develop, and it will become an important part of your future plans and goals. Blue is an important color at this time.

Aquarius

January 20-February 18

Perhaps the thing you need the most is right behind you, but you are too busy searching far and wide. This is a time to be focused on the direction your life is headed, and take advantage of what is already available to you instead of wasting valuable resources. Happiness is near.

Pisces

February 19-March 20

"Overwhelmed" is an understatement at this time. You are being bombarded with tasks and projects and you cannot seem to manage them all. Ask for help from those close to you, and you will be surprised at how much they are willing to take on. Life will return to a more normal pace later in the summer.



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Calistoga in the Top 10 list – twice!

By Pat Hampton

MUD CITY WEEKENDER

Calistoga made headlines recently in two new polls that track vacation destinations: Fodor's Travel placed the town in its Top 10 America's Best Small Towns and it earned the slot as the second most expensive place to stay in the top 30 destinations in the state surveyed by CheapHotels.org.

The beachfront city of Santa Monica is the most expensive destination in California in terms of its lodging cost. That's according to a recent survey from CheapHotels.org that compared hotel rates for 30 top destinations in the Golden State this summer.

The survey specifically analyzed the average amount hotel guest will have to spend in each destination to stay in the

cheapest available double room. The period of comparison spans California's high tourist season of Memorial Day through Labor Day. Only those hotels rated at least 2 stars and located either near the city center or close to the beach were taken into consideration.

With an average rate of \$213 per night for the least expensive double room, Santa Monica leads the list. The famous resort town in western Los Angeles County is significantly more expensive than the runners up: Calistoga, a small city at the north end of the Napa Valley, and Santa Catalina Island. These number two- and three-place finishers came in with average rates of \$184 and \$178, respectively, for the most affordable room.

Two of California's most populous cities, Los Angeles and San Francisco, rank in the



PHOTO BY PAT HAMPTON

Calistoga made the Top 10 list twice recently, one for being one of the most expensive places to stay in the state and as one of 10 Best Small Towns in America.

midfield, with average rates of \$109 and \$103, respectively. Meanwhile, the least expensive California destination according to the survey is Sacramento. There the least expensive double room will cost summer travelers only \$43 per night on average.

The following table shows the 10 most expensive destinations in California based on the average

rate for their cheapest available double room (minimum: 2-star hotel) during the time period spanning May 26 through Sept. 1, 2013: 1) Santa Monica, \$213; 2) Calistoga, \$184; 3) Catalina Island, \$178; 4) Laguna Beach, \$154; 5) Coronado, \$148; 6) Napa, \$139; 7) Mendocino, \$136; 8) Pacific Grove, \$134; 9) Carmel, \$131 and 10) Santa Barbara,

\$129.

"Calistoga may not have the posh atmosphere of neighboring St. Helena or Healdsburg, but what it lacks in glamour it makes up for in character (and bargain prices). The Western-style shops along Lincoln Avenue, the town's

See TOP 10 page 10

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COQUEREL
Continued from page 5

wines. But the most significant connection for Brenda and Clay to their favorite French wine region is through their winemaker, the transplanted enologist and Bordeaux native Christine Barbe.

With a University of Bordeaux PhD in enology, Barbe came to California in the mid-1990s, recruited to work in research and development at the E & J Gallo winery in Modesto. From there, she applied for a research position with a viticultural focus at Robert Mondavi Winery in 1996 and landed the job.

“Wine is part of the life in France,” Barbe said over coffee and the summer tourist din at Oxbow Market in Napa. “You have wine on the table for dinner or for special events. But my parents were not in the wine business, so I didn’t know. I was in love with science. I went to the science university for biology and then enology.”

“I worked for Château Carbonnieux and also La Louvière,” she said, naming a pair of Pessac-Léognan wineries known for their excellent white wines. “My PhD supervisor was making a lot of Sauvignon Blanc for them. We were doing a lot of experiments to select some special yeast for Sauvignon Blanc.”

“When I was done with my PhD, I came here in ’96, and when I tasted all the Sauvignon



PHOTO BY TONY POER

Transplanted enologist and Bordeaux native Christine Barbe is the winemaker at Coquerel Wines.

Blanc here, I couldn’t find, really, Sauvignon Blanc, because most of the people, they were doing malolactic or they were using too much oak. So I started to think about what I would like to do.”

Barbe explained that in California “they were also picking very late. You know, we have a lot of sun, and that means you have a lot of sugar, which means you end up with a lot of alco-

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hol. Sauvignon Blanc needs to be picked early and to have this flavor, you need to protect it from oxidation. So I started to develop some techniques to make the product I wanted.”

While working at Mondavi, she was able to test her techniques, producing roughly a barrel each year of her own Sauvignon Blanc. In 2007, Barbe released her first “official” vintage, a commercial run of 100 cases of ’06 Yountville Sauvignon. The name she chose for the label was Toquade. It means “infatuation” in English, which described her longtime relationship to the grape variety of her homeland.

Meanwhile, at a harvest party at the Napa Valley Reserve in 2006, Brenda Cockerell told a friend, former Robert Mondavi Winery historian Nina Wemyss, about their desire to find a winemaker to help launch the Coquerel production. Wemyss knew right then that Barbe would be a very good fit.

“Nina said, ‘I know someone who would be the perfect winemaker for you. She was an experimental winemaker at Mondavi, and she makes a little bit of her own wine, and she’s absolutely incredible.’”

“[Nina] introduced us,” Brenda recalled, “and the minute I met Christine, she understood exactly the kind of wine we wanted.”

Soon hired by the Cockerells, Barbe and her new employers started to make a racy, elegant Sauvignon Blanc from the old Calistoga vines at a small facility in St. Helena. The Bordeaux term *garagiste*, or “garage winemaker,” applied in the early Coquerel days; the space they occupied was, in fact, a double-garage. Barbe’s interviewer pointed out that she was probably Napa Valley’s only French-born double-garagiste.

To date, the two Coquerel bottlings of Sauvignon Blanc have been very well-received by consumers, the press, and the wholesale trade. Back in Dallas, at one of the country’s most deluxe dining establishments, Mansion on Turtle Creek, wine director Michael Flynn includes Terroir Coquerel on his carefully selected wine list (in a clever coincidence, before he knew who they were he once served the Cockerells some Coquerel because he liked the alliteration).

“They’re very food-friendly, accessible wines in a style of Sauvignon Blanc I happen to like

a great deal coming out of Napa Valley,” Flynn shared over the phone.

As a sommelier, Flynn might have considered himself fortunate to get his hands on any Terroir Coquerel in California, let alone Texas. Its production is miniscule—less than 200 cases—while Le Petit Coquerel is closer to 2,000. It’s still a modest output overall. The acreages of Walnut Wash, as they call the Calistoga vineyard, and the Yountville property they purchase from have mostly determined Coquerel’s small production, along with careful control of the crop size in each vineyard.

In 2008, a vineyard property adjacent to Walnut Wash fortuitously came up for sale, and the Cockerells jumped at the chance to acquire it. In relation to the Sauvignon Blanc vines, this “new” property was 180 degrees opposite. Petite Sirah, an old workhorse in Calistoga’s vineyards, was planted in combination with mostly red Spanish and Portuguese varieties.

“When the parcel next door became available that was planted

primarily in red varieties, with the exception of about one acre of [the white Portuguese grape] Verdelho, we decided to buy that parcel and join it to our vineyard,” Brenda said.

At about 70 cases, the just-released 2011 Tempranillo is Coquerel’s smallest production wine. According to Barbe, their version of the robust, complex Spanish variety is getting an “experimental” first release similar to that of the Petite Sirah in 2008. Along with the Verdelho fruit they don’t crush themselves, they sell most of the Tempranillo grapes back to Prager Winery in St. Helena, which used to own the vineyard and still sources from Coquerel for their Port wines.

The Spanish-Portuguese combination of Tempranillo and Verdelho may seem esoteric for a Napa Valley winery, but as wine collectors with decades of experience, the Cockerells have an adventurous side.

“Brenda and Clay are very curious. They are not afraid to

See COQUEREL on page 20



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TOP 10*Continued from page 7*

main street, lend Calistoga a down-home frontier feel not usually found in the highly refined Napa Valley," reads the listing on Fodor's Travel website that offered its Top 10 America's Best Small Towns.

"With their quaint downtowns, undeniably charming shops and distinct personalities, small towns have long held a special place in the American heart," the site

states. "That homey feel can also appeal to city travelers longing for a slice of small town Americana."

The best of the best were included in Fodor's Travel second-annual list of "America's Best Small Towns," released Thursday. From a funky arts town in Oregon to a popular South Carolina throwback, there is nothing small about the affordable attractions these cities offer.

The Top 10 towns were 1) Telluride, Colo.; 2) Beaufort, S. C.; 3) Marfa, Texas; 4) Paia, Hawaii;

5) Calistoga; 6) Port Townsend, Wash.; 7) Stockbridge, Mass.; 8) Cooperstown, N.Y.; 9) Ashland, Ore.; and 10) Bardstown, Ky.

"With the destination marketing efforts of the Chamber of Commerce, we were able to host a key journalist from Fodor's in January, said Carolyn Denaro, destination marketing specialist. "Working with our public relations agency, Augustine Ideas, as well as Visit Napa Valley, Visit California and SF Travel, we invite journalists to experience Calistoga's intimate hospitality

throughout the year. This article is a result of those efforts."

The Chamber of Commerce receives funds for Destination

Marketing from the City of Calistoga each year. This year's budget is for \$325,000 from the city's general fund.

KAMALOT ASTROLOGY

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M. Antoine



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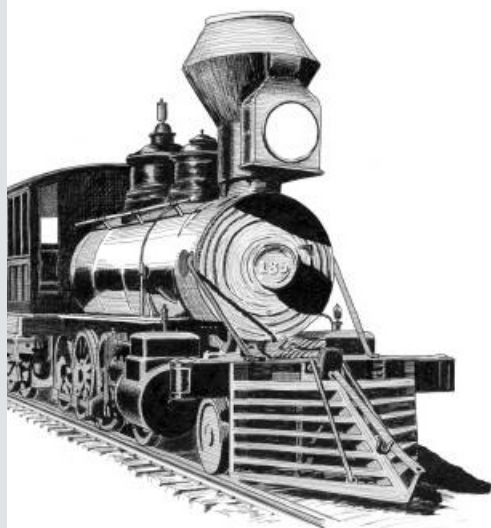


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Built in 1868, the Calistoga Depot was the northern terminus of the Napa Valley Railroad. Besides exporting agricultural products, Calistoga imported tourists who took advantage of the skating rink, race track, mud and mineral baths, all of which were attractions promoted by a local real estate developer, Sam Brannan. Passenger service ended in 1947. In 1978, the depot was restored, along with six antique rail cars, to house a charming commercial complex.



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Roam ^{the world for} Antiques

By Christine Plant

MUD CITY WEEKENDER

Extensive renovations have given a face-lift to the vacant building at 1124 Lincoln Avenue on the corner of Hwy. 29.

You may have noticed the new roll-up door to one side and striped awning over the front window as you drive by.

Inside, the space now has an open warehouse feel with overhead industrial lighting. Mario Sculatti has been working long evenings in preparation for the grand opening of 'Roam Antiques' in August. Roam is Mario's middle name, in honor of his father's friend and co-worker at Chateau Montelena where international headlines were made with their award winning 1973 Chardonnay.

It seems a fitting name too for

an antique store where treasures have been gathered from near and far.

"Our antiques are shipped from all across America and Europe, that's why I wanted to name the store 'Roam' because I'm literally willing to roam the planet to find the really cool stuff," Sculatti said.

Sitting amongst a collection of metal shelving and large industrial equipment, he began to explain how, when he was a little boy, his love of old bottles and antique glass led to an appreciation for collecting.

"I'd go on trips with my dad to Gold Country. I just loved hand blown glass, and I started collecting antique bottles. My father's Auntie Ramona (Beringer) would let us dig in the dump at the win-

See *ROAM ANTIQUES* page 12



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE PLANT

Mario Sculatti has opened a warehouse of treasures from around the world called Roam Antiques has opened on Lincoln Avenue near Foothill Boulevard.

Crystal Creek Farm and Haven



We are your local, organic, sustainable Vegetable and Flower CSA Farm offering many eclectic varieties of seasonal produce. We are a haven for rescued animals and heirloom, free range happy chickens. We offer eggs, honey, local vinegar, local jams & jellies, pesto and new this year.... Garden Art!

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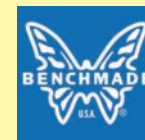
(so as not to conflict with the Calistoga Farmers Market)

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Villa Ca'Toga

Carlo Marchiori opens the doors of his Palladian villa, Ca'toga, located just north of Calistoga. This splendid residence and workshop offers an enlightening glimpse into the private world of an artist. A large Salon and six other rooms are completely decorated in trompe l'oeil frescoes. The garden and grounds offer surprises of pools, statues, fountains, Roman ruins and 18th century follies.

Every Saturday at 11 am from May through October.

For Reservations and Tickets Contact

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Continued from page 11

ery, so when I was little I would go on digging expeditions with my dad.”

In high school Mario was seeking out estate sales and venturing into the world of auctions to hunt down objects that piqued his interest. As a young man his collection soon filled the garage and spilled over to a barn.

His current interest, American made factory machinery from the early 1900's, has led him to appreciate the workmanship that was once the benchmark for industrial manufacturing.

"I love the Industrial Revolution. I like large factory engineered things and anything riveted," he enthused.

Looking around, heavy metal shelving, industrial desks, large pipe racks and a sundry of odd shaped and long forgotten equipment waited for a renewed life.

He explained that he hopes to attract wineries who might be interested in some unique pieces for their retail spaces like the old European wine presses or photographers on the hunt for props for a catalogue shoot.

“People in the design business will come into a store like this and find unusual things to stage

a photo shoot. I want to get the word out that we have unique pieces like that pipe rack,” he says pointing to a large shelving unit on the back wall. “I’ve seen a reproduction of that for \$1200. It was used to store large pipes in a factory and can be re-purposed as a shelving system,” he suggested.

Off the main showroom inviting spaces were staged into vignettes displaying tables, chairs, and hutches filled with china and glassware. Five other antiques dealers share the warehouse space, each with a specialty, whether it be antique medical equipment, re-purposed antique furniture, garden items or linens and Americana.

Smaller objects are displayed on old cabinet shelves or hanging from the walls to attract out-of-town visitors, in hopes they can find something to tuck in their luggage for the homeward journey.

The hunt for the unusual does not stop with the Industrial Revolution. "I want to bring in a variety of interesting stuff that any collector might find of interest. Take that painted furniture in the back or this ornate bed frame, it could mix and match with Victorian mirrors or an industrial riveted table. It works!"

Strolling through the open



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE PLANT

Furniture, industrial metal, wine antiques and more inside Roam Antiques on Lincoln Avenue.



Glow in the dark Challenge July 12

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door an inquisitive visitor wandered in to check out the new store. Mario welcomed him, "Come browse." A short while later a sale was made as the customer tucked a factory clock under the stroller seat and went on his way. When asked where it was destined for, he called over his shoulder, "The kitchen wall."

"American made things appeal to family history; people remember items which bring the story full circle," says Mario. "If I buy a piece from a collector, they generally know the back story. I ended up going to this apothecary, and all the items around the bar area here," he says waving his arms, "are from one factory. I got to see where they had been used then loaded them all onto the back of my truck. I'll pass along that story; it's an added advantage to the piece."

He proudly pointed to a wooden cabinet with slim drawers each with a designated name. "It's a label cabinet where they kept all the names for the various apothecary jars. The coolest piece in the store!"

Born and raised in St Helena, Mario observed, "There are a lot of great things happening in Calistoga right now and what appealed to me is the number of antique shops already in town. I could be part of a district here and that would be one more reason to drive up-valley from the Bay Area and make a day of it." He pulled a large wooden plaque outside and propped it against a rustic wagon in front of the store,



PHOTO BY PAT HAMPTON

Jeannete Shaw is one of five antiques dealers offering their specialty finds inside Roam Antiques on Lincoln Avenue near Foothill Blvd.

describing how he it was going to be the new sign. It was the creative homework assignment for the evening. "There's nothing I love more than antiques ... and wine," he mused, "but the best thing about antiques is everything

has a story and everything is an adventure to find."

Roam Antiques 1124 Lincoln Ave, Calistoga 942-4503 open daily 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Their website, www.roman-antiques.com, is coming soon.

"...the best thing about antiques is everything has a story and everything is an adventure to find."

—Mario Roam Sculatti




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Free Concerts in the Park

The Chamber of Commerce, thanks to full sponsorship by Calistoga Beverage Company, is once again bringing a full summer of Concerts in the Park to Calistogans. It's our weekly party, and you're invited.

Concerts are on Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Pioneer Park on Cedar Street.

Admission is free, and fans are encouraged to bring picnic dinners, blankets and low chairs to enjoy the performances.

This year there will be no

on-site food service, but several restaurants are offering boxed dinners the night of the concerts. Just call in your order and pick it up on the way.

July 10 – RoseTown

The RoseTown Soul and R&B Revue specializes in bringing new life to favorite soul classics - from Otis Redding to Wilson Pickett, The Blues Brothers to Stevie Wonder, STAX to MOTOWN, we've got your favorites in. As seen at River Rock Casino, Santa

Rosa Wednesday Night Market and the Petaluma Summer Music Series, RoseTown presents a classy, upbeat performance that is suitable for all ages and all occasions

July 17 – Dennis Johnson & The Mississippi Ramblers

Dennis Johnson is one of the elite slide guitar players performing today. Drawing comparisons to slide guitarists Robert Johnson and Roy Rogers, Dennis Johnson masterfully elevates the art of slide guitar across many genres of music including Blues, New Orleans, Rock, and Swing

July 24 – Buck Ford

Nashville recording artist Buck Ford is a young, pure country

singing sensation who focuses on keeping the traditional country sound and rhythm flowing. Bucks influences consist of George Strait, Merle Haggard, George Jones and Keith Whiteley, just to name a few. Buck and his band pride themselves on the fact that their performances "bring back to life" the sound and feel of real old country music.

July 31 – Keyser Soze

Keyser Soze is an original reggae/ska/soul band with a strong jazz background. The sextet was formed in Reno, NV in 1998 by Jammal Tarkington and Rodney Teague. Keyser Soze has made a strong presence for themselves by regular regional touring. In 2003, Keyser Soze released "Revenge", a highly energetic and eclectic record that established their presence on the scene.



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SEASONS in the Vineyard

July: Vines are full of tight green, pea-sized berries. Veraison - green grapes soften and turn yellow or red. Red wines are blended back into tanks and bottled to make room for the next harvest.

August: Some fruit clusters are removed to provide optimum flavor development. Chardonnay and Pinot Noir harvest begins for sparkling wines. All equipment is serviced and readied for harvest.

September: Harvest of white grapes begins, soon followed by reds. Grapes are picked in the cool morning hours. Many wineries return the stems, seeds and skins to the vineyards to use as a compost.

October: Harvest slows by the end of the month. Red grape fermentation start with cold soaks in stainless steel tanks. Pump-overs or cap punching take place until fermentation is complete, then the juice is pressed off and sent to barrels.

November: Stirring of barrel fermentation. Chardonnay continues to keep fermentation going until complete.

December: Vines enter their dormancy period. Pre-pruning begins. First red wines are tasted and evaluated.

January: Vines are dormant. Crews are pruning and setting trellis systems. Red wines are racked and/or moved from tank to barrel.

February: Pruning and vine preparations are complete. Sprinkler systems and wind machines are ready for frosty spring mornings.

March: Growing season is officially underway with bud break - a stage when vine buds crack open and small shoots emerge. This is the beginning of the new crop.

April: Vines show thick clusters of new leaves. Crews remove tiny



shoots so only vital vegetation is left. White wines are released. Blending for red varietals begins. Frost is a threat.

May: Bloom and set occur; fruit is vulnerable to frost. Only the strongest shoots are left on vines; focus is on producing fruit, not vegetation. Chardonnay blending begins.

June: Growers are busy with leaf and shoot removal, which gives the grapes adequate exposure to sunlight. Wineries are bottling Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc.

Early settlers tapped valley's potential for growing grapes

Wild grapes certainly grew in abundance in early Napa Valley, but it took settler George Calvert Yount to tap the area's potential for cultivating wine grapes. Yount built one of the homesteads in the area and was the first to plant Napa Valley grapes in 1839. Soon after, other pioneers such as John Patchett and Hamilton Walker Crabb helped introduce the first vitis vinifera grapes to the area.

Charles Krug is credited with establishing Napa Valley's first commercial winery in 1861. His success and leadership sparked a wave of new growth, and by 1889 there were more than 140 wineries in operation, including Schramsberg (founded in 1862), Beringer (1876) and Inglenook (1879).

By the turn of the 20th century the industry saw prices plummet amidst a sea of surplus grapes, and the arrival of phylloxera dealt vintners a stunning blow as more than 80% of the valley's vineyard acreage fell victim to the destructive root louse. An even greater threat to the Napa Valley wine industry arrived in 1920 with the enactment of Prohibition. Vineyards and wineries were abandoned over the next 14 years with only a handful of wineries continuing to operate by producing sacramental wines.

With the repeal of Prohibition in 1933, Napa Valley's wine industry began its slow recovery. During this time, John Daniel Jr., resurrected Inglenook, Georges de Latour re-established



Yount

Beaulieu Vineyards (BV), Louis M. Martini built his winery and the Mondavi family purchased Charles Krug Winery. Andre Tchelistcheff, a Russian émigré working in France, came to Napa Valley to work for BV and became one of the great figures and mentors in the history of Napa Valley wine.

The early 1940s marked an important point in Napa Valley's history when these early vintners realized they would be more successful working together than on their own. In 1944, seven vintners signed the agreement of association that formed the Napa Valley Vintners trade association, now nearly 500 wineries strong.

The prominence of Napa Valley wine on the world stage is largely due to the efforts of local vintners during the last 50 years. People like Robert Mondavi, Napa Valley's greatest marketer, fully embodied the collective spirit and camaraderie that gave rise to the valley's success and quality.

If a single event can be credited with putting Napa Valley on the map, it was the Paris Tasting of 1976. This blind, comparative tasting pitted Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnay from California against the best wines of Bordeaux and Burgundy in a blind tasting. When the tasting was done, the judges had given top honors to Chateau Montelena Chardonnay and Stag's Leap Wine Cellars Cabernet Sauvignon. Napa Valley would never be the same.

— Napa Valley Vintners



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Places to go, things to see, stuff to do...

TOURING CA'TOGA



Carlo Marchiori's breathtaking Ca'toga home is available for tours each Saturday at 11 a.m. He reopens the doors for tours after the winter hiatus in May 2014.

It is a house and grounds like no other, this remarkable Palladian style masterpiece we know as Ca'toga, the home of world-renowned artist Carlo Marchiori.

Tours of the home and grounds are given every Saturday at 11 a.m. from May through October.

Call 942-3900 for ticket information and reservations.

SHARPSTEEN MUSEUM

If you're a history buff, or just want to find out a little more about



The Sharpsteen Museum houses exhibits on the history and people of the Calistoga area. Open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily at 1311 Washington Street across from City Hall.

how this spa resort town came into being, your visit has to include a stop at the Sharpsteen Museum, one of Calistoga's best self-tours.

Docents are on hand to explain the artifacts and displays as well as the wonderful dioramas that depict Calistoga at the end of the nineteenth century.

You can find the museum at 1311 Washington Street. Open every day from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. except Thanksgiving and Christmas. Admission is free, although donations are accepted.

Don't forget to stop and browse in the museum's gift shop. It is full of books and mementos of the past sure to please any discerning reader or shopper.

Good selection of women in the old West books as well as history of the Napa Valley. You'll also enjoy the selection of doorstops, china tea cups, and "antiques" on sale.

BALE GRIST MILL PARK



Bale Grist Mill State Historic Park is four miles south of Calistoga. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., a small entry fee is collected in the gift shop on weekends by volunteer staff.

Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekends, visit the Bale Grist Mill State Historic Park four miles south of Calistoga on Highway 29. Built in 1846, the Old Bale Mill has been restored to operating condition complete with its 36-foot wooden waterwheel. On weekends you can buy freshly ground cornmeal, whole-wheat flour and other gifts in the mill's store.

You can walk along the History Trail from the mill to Bothe Napa Valley State Park, a mile and a half north, and visit the Native American Plant Garden next to the visitor center.

Bothe-Napa Valley State Park also has hiking trails and picnic grounds which are open to the public. The 50 campsites are now open to the public because of new agreements between the state and a local non-profit. Amenities include restrooms and hot showers, picnic sites, and a summer swimming pool.

Call 942-4575 for more information.

OLD FAITHFUL GEYSER



Old Faithful Geyser of California is on Tubbs Lane just north of town.

A tourist destination for more than 100 years, Calistoga's Old Faithful Geyser of California continues to draw people from all over the world to witness its natural eruptions of hot mineral water.

In years past, visitors arrived by horse and buggy, on foot or in Model-T's. Now you can drive into the parking lot yourself at 1299 Tubbs Lane.

Shooting 60 feet into the air for three or four minutes, the 350 degree water comes from an underground river, and is heated as it flows over a bed of hot magma. The geyser eruptions average about 30 to 40 minutes apart.

Open daily from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., admission is \$14 for adults, \$12 for seniors, \$8 children 4-16.

PETRIFIED FOREST



Call ahead for a guided nature walk on Saturday or Sunday at Petrified Forest, 4100 Petrified Forest Rd.

See giant redwoods turned to stone after being uprooted and covered by volcanic ash from eruptions that happened 3.4 million years ago. Picnic area, walking trails, and a gift shop and museum. About six miles west of Calistoga at 4100 Petrified Forest Road.

Call ahead to reserve space on Meadow Walk at 11 a.m. Saturdays and Nature walks at 11 a.m. Sundays. Admission \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors and Juniors 12-17, \$5 children 6-11. Call 942-6667 for information and tour reservations. Young kids need a break from being inside?

PIONEER PARK

Take them to the city's prettiest play area, Pioneer Park on Cedar Street. Large, grassy shade areas for adults to sit and talk, fenced playground with jungle gym equipment for youngsters.

Public bathrooms on site, pets on leashes okay and alcoholic beverages are allowed in the park as well. BBQ and picnic tables available. The year-round Napa River flows next to the park. It's a nice place to cool off in summer, but do not let children play in water without adult supervision.

R. L. STEVENSON STATE PARK

Hiking to the summit from Robert Louis Stevenson State Park gives our outdoor visitors a breathtaking view of the Bay Area. Open during daylight hours only, the trail to the west climbs to the summit of Mt. St. Helena, the trail to the east goes to the cliffs of the Palisades. No restrooms or water are available, so go prepared and plan for sudden changes in the weather.

Take Highway 29 towards Middletown, and you'll see the parking lots on the right and left sides of the highway about seven miles from Calistoga.

CALISTOGA BALLOONS



Calistoga Balloons, the only hot air balloon company that will float you over the northern Napa Valley/ Calistoga in the early morning hours.

The fact that the Calistoga end of the valley has less fog than the lower part of the valley is a flying advantage for Calistoga Balloons. The colorful balloons are launched from various sites in Calistoga. Launch time is usually near sunrise.

Most people simply don't want the balloon to return to earth. But when your feet do touch the earth again, Calistoga Balloons offers champagne brunch at Michelin one star Solage restaurant after your flight. For more information on an adventure you won't soon forget, call Calistoga Balloons of Napa Valley at 942-5758.

Places to go, things to see, stuff to do...

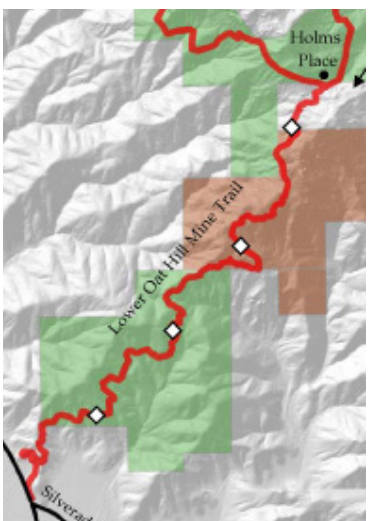
MUD BATHS & MASSAGE



Slow down, relax. Whether it's a mud bath or massage or facial or foot rub, you can find what you're looking for at Calistoga's selection of fine spas.

Wellness is the focus of Calistoga's heart, and local treatments are fashioned to give you the best experience possible, but you have to be an active participant! There are almost a dozen spas in town, so check them all out to find the one best suited for your needs. With mud baths, facials, aromatherapy, salt scrubs, steam baths, mineral pools, herbal wraps and other treatments offered, you'll find something to make you feel relaxed and rejuvenated again.

OAT HILL MINE HIKING/BIKING



The 8.3 long Oat Hill Mine Trail follows the original route between Calistoga and the western end of Aetna Springs Road in Pope Valley.

Construction of the Oat Hill Mine Road was started in 1873 to provide a transportation route between Calistoga and the quick-silver mines in the Palisades. It took 20 years to complete the project and the road was officially opened in 1893. Much of the road was constructed by Chinese laborers; hand-laid stone walls are visible at many locations along the trail.

Today the 8.3-mile-long Oat Hill Mine Trail follows the original route between Calistoga and the western end of Aetna Springs Road in Pope Valley. The trail provides a magnificent recreational experience for hikers, mountain bicyclists and equestrians. The Calistoga trail head is at the junction of Silverado Trail and Lake Street where on-street parking is available. Take lots of water, as there is no drinkable water on the trail. Stay safe.

CASTELLO DI AMOROSA



Castello di Amorosa is just south of town, where it took 15 years to build this authentic replica of an 11th century medieval castle.

The Castello di Amorosa has five towers and ramparts, 107 rooms on eight levels, all built over 15 years from antique materials and nearly 8,000 tons of stone. Regular tours are \$33 per person and tasting is \$18 per person. No reservations are needed for tasting five of the castle's wines. Reservations for tours are required, so call ahead at 967-6272. Children of all ages are welcome at the castle, and those 5 years and older are welcome on

tours (\$7 fee). The castle is at 4045 North St. Helena Highway. Open seven days a week, it is a remarkable achievement of medieval architecture just minutes from Calistoga.

PARADE LOVIN' CALISTOGA



The totally world famous Calistoga Lighted Tractor Parade draws thousands of gawkers each December.

We'll have a parade here at the drop of a hat, it seems, and that means more fun for us and for our town's visitors.

The *Silverado Parade* celebrates July 4 during the Napa County Fair. Floats, music, cars, organizations and colorful characters make this the biggest Fourth of July parade in the county. This year's theme for the parade and four-day fair is *Celebrate!*

The annual *Halloween Parade* has been a fall highlight for more than 60 years, and is always, always on Oct. 31. Hundreds of boils and ghouls line up by age to come down Lincoln Avenue at 6 p.m. before enjoying a costume contest and Haunted Carnival at the Community Center.

Not the end of our seasonal parade calendar, the *Calistoga Lighted Tractor Parade* blinks its way through downtown on the first Saturday in December, as we pay tribute to our agricultural roots with as many tractors, old trucks, backhoes, and old fire trucks we can decorate with working lights and music. Great fun for the entire family.

The Lighted Tractor Parade starts at 7 p.m., giving visitors

plenty of time for dinner before or after the parade in one of our fine eateries.

A little more locally focused but still drawing sidewalk supporters are the annual *Calistoga High School Homecoming Parade* in November and the *Our Lady of Guadalupe Parade* each Dec. 12.

But then again, we don't need much encouragement to have a community parade!

CRYSTAL CREEK FARMSTAND

Crystal Creek Farm & Haven Farmstand is our local organic, sustainable vegetable and flower farm offering eclectic varieties of seasonal produce, all non-GMO.

A haven for rescued animals as well, you'll enjoy meeting the farm animals as well as farmers Sequoia Buck, Tom Atkins and Patrick Doiron.

The farmstand is open Saturday and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. just minutes from downtown Calistoga at 5140 Sharp Rd.

Stop by on the weekends for fresh eggs, honey, local vinegar, jams and jellies and pesto.

Call 942-9289 for information.



Crystal Creek Farm & Haven Farmstand is open noon to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, open to the public at 5140 Sharp Road.

HOLIDAY VILLAGE

Returning for 2014 is the Calistoga Chamber of Commerce's



Holiday Village is a weekend-long celebration of all things Calistoga.

festive Holiday Village celebration with the annual Community Christmas Bazaar, Breakfast with Santa, downtown shopping, and the almost-world famous Calistoga Lighted Tractor Parade. December 6-7. Go to www.VisitCalistoga.com for more information.

NAPA COUNTY FAIR & FIREWORKS



Kids will find a variety of carnival rides at the annual Napa County Fair at the local fairgrounds on North Oak Street.

Napa County Fair's on-going theme is "Celebrate!" on July 4 at the fairgrounds on North Oak Street in Calistoga.

Stick around for the annual Silverado Parade on July 4 as thousands celebrate red, white and blue. Best fireworks show in the county at the grandstands on July 4 as part of fair admission following the grandstand show.

More places to go, things to see, stuff to do...



Take Lake County Highway to Middletown to try your luck at Twin Pine Casino, just 20 minutes from downtown Calistoga.

TWIN PINE CASINO & HOTEL

Where is California's newest and most exciting casino/hotel/restaurant destination?

It's just a short 15-mile drive north from Calistoga over scenic Mount St. Helena on Highway 29 – Twin Pine Casino & Hotel. There you'll find hundreds of the latest and most popular slots, and table games like Blackjack and Texas Hold'em Poker. You'll also enjoy live entertainment Thursday through Sunday – and all shows are free!

The Manzanita Restaurant (reservations at 707-987-1200) is renowned for its fine cuisine and extensive wine list. The Grapevine Bar & Lounge is a smoke-free environment and full-service bar featuring a large selection of wines and mixed drinks, beer on tap, and five big-screen high-def TVs.

Twin Pine's new hotel, (707) 987-0297, is an excellent choice for deluxe accommodations at modest prices with 60 non-smoking rooms to choose from.

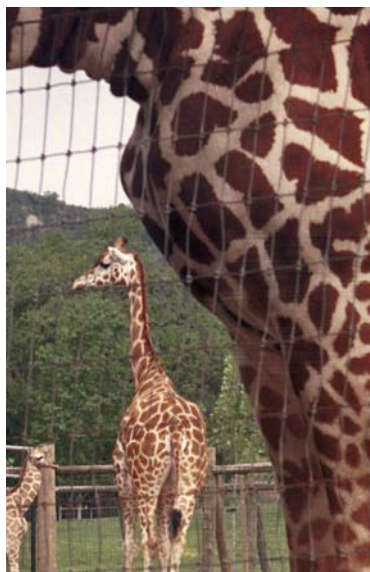
Want more? How about a unique wine-tasting room featuring the region's best award-winning wines, and a gift shop with great wine accessories, beautiful jewelry, clothing, glassware and its own broad selection of California wines.

Twin Pine Casino & Hotel is open 24/7. For more information call (800) 564-4872 or go to TwinPine.com.

SAFARI WEST

Explore the entire 400 acres of Safari West in a three-hour adventure led by one of their highly experienced guides in an open-air, authentic safari vehicle. Tours are offered at 9 a.m., 10 a.m., noon and 4 p.m. spring and summer, time changes in fall. Safari Tour prices are adults \$78; children 3-12 \$32, children 1-2 \$15. Arrive at least 15 minutes before the safari is scheduled to leave. Advanced reservations are required for all visits.

The experience includes a drive through the 12-acre Extreme Africa exhibit, where guests will be at one with the wild, observing giraffe, gazelle, scimitar-horned oryx, ostrich and other species of African antelope all living together. In one area you may find a cape



Giraffes, zebras, and more await the adventurous at Safari West.

buffalo and a zebra enjoying a refreshing break at the nearby watering hole.

Safari West Adventure drives are 2½ to 3 hours long and best suited for children over the age of 3 years old and may be uncomfortable for pregnant women.

Call (707) 579-2551 for more information.

MOUNT ST. HELENA GOLF COURSE

Mount Saint Helena Golf Course, "a diamond in the rough," is located on the grounds of the Napa County Fair with the entry



"A Diamond in the Rough," the nine-hole par 34 public Mt. St. Helena Golf Course at the fairgrounds is open seven days a week, 7 a.m. to dusk.

off Grant Street.

The golf course facility, a 9-hole/18-hole layout, par 34 (2,759 yards) is open 7 days a week, 7 a.m. to dusk (closed 4th of July week). Course rates are: Weekdays \$20/\$28, Senior Citizens \$20/\$28. Weekends and holidays \$24/\$34; Senior citizens \$20/\$28. Power cart rentals are \$10/\$13 per person. For the Pro Shop, call Kelly Hart at 942-9966.

BIKING AROUND



Contact the Calistoga Chamber of Commerce for a "Bike Napa Valley" map for tips and resources.

Napa County, with its varied terrain, beautiful scenery and mild weather is an ideal place to bicycle

for transportation and recreation. Travel between towns is not as easy on a bike because of distances, limited transit connections, and roads with motor vehicle traffic.

The Oat Hill Mine Road at the north end of town is a popular off road bike trail also used by hikers. Use common sense and courtesy when biking in town or on the rural roadways.

FARMERS MARKET



Every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., the Calistoga Farmers Market is open for business year-round.

The Calistoga Farmers Market is open every Saturday between 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. year-round in the parking lot next to the police department on Washington Street. Visitors can also visit the neighboring Sharpsteen Museum.

Enjoy organic and natural produce from area farmers who bring vegetables, fruit, flowers, arts and crafts to the fair. Food and live music or entertainment. Morning coffee and walk-away breakfast treats also available for purchase.

SPRINT CAR RACES

When it comes to history and prestige, few tracks on the West Coast offer more than Calistoga Speedway and on Friday and Saturday, April 5-6, the picturesque half-mile will roar to life as the World of Outlaws Sprint Car



The King of the West Sprint Car Races are scheduled for June 21.

Series take over Wine Country. Labor Day Weekend, Aug. 30 & 31, brings the seventh annual Louie Vermeil Memorial Classic for wingless cars and midgets sponsored by USAC/CRA.

Call 942-5111 for information or go to www.calistogaspeedway.org for ticket prices and seating chart.

TROUT FISHING



The whole family will enjoy fishing at Smith's Trout Farm in Knights Valley.

Looking for something to do that the whole family will enjoy?

Then a visit to Smith's Mount St. Helena Trout Farm and Hatchery might be in order. Smith's is located seven miles up Ida Clayton Road in Knights Valley just north of Calistoga.

Smith's Mount St. Helena Trout Farm and Hatchery is open Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from March through October. Cost for the day depends on the size of trout you catch, which varies from \$2 for a six inch trout to \$7 for an 11-inch trout. For more information call (707) 987-3651.

COMMUNITY POOL



The Calistoga Community Pool will open through Oct. 20 to locals and guests looking for a place to swim.

Decades in the making, but a beautiful result of community effort, the Calistoga Community Pool will open for the pre-season April 7 to May 9 and Spring Season from May 10 to June 6.

The pool is open to the public on a first come, first served basis. On hot days directors do expect to reach capacity and will not allow any additional patrons into the facility until others leave. Admission prices are: Calistoga Youth (2-17), free; Seniors (55+), \$3; Adults (18+), \$5; Water Aerobics/Arthritis Adult, \$5; Water Aerobics/Arthritis Senior, \$4; and Stroke Clinics, \$10;

Daily Fees for Non-Residents are: Youth (2-17), \$3; Seniors (55+), \$5; Adults (18+), \$6; Water Aerobics/Arthritis Adult, \$8; Water Aerobics/Arthritis Senior, \$6; and Stroke Clinics, \$15.

The pool is located at 1401 North Oak Street. Call 942-2844 for more information.

VETERANS MEMORIAL

The Calistoga Veterans Memorial



The Calistoga Veterans Memorial is at Logvy Community Park.

at Logvy Community Park commemorates those who have served in the nation's armed forces. Dedicated in 2009, the memorial includes over 300 bricks inscribed with the names of local veterans and family members as well as marble columns dedicated to the five branches of service.

Veterans Day and Memorial Day services, sponsored by the American Legion and local scout groups, are held at the memorial while Memorial Day services are held at both Logvy Park and Pioneer Cemetery on Foothill Boulevard. Pioneer Cemetery was deeded to the city of Calistoga in 1936 and contains over 500 graves.

LIVE MUSIC, ENTERTAINMENT



Concerts in the Park began Thursday, June 26 at Pioneer Park on Cedar Street.

Calistoga is known as the live music town of upper Napa Valley, with music a part of the community's fabric, especially in the spring and summer when the

weekly Concerts in the Park happen at Pioneer Park every Thursday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Thriving nightlife scene includes live music every weekend Brannan's Grill and Hydro Grill & Bar from spring through fall. The Christian music event "Rock of Ages" is also held in October at the fairgrounds.

For more music event information, go to the chamber website at calistogavistors.com.

CULINARY CLASSES

If you are a foodie, there are adventures ahead for you! Check out the local B&B's which offer cooking classes along with their overnight stay packages.

Down the road the famous Culinary Institute of America holds public cooking demonstrations at 1:30 p.m. on the weekends for \$20 per person. Call 707-967-2320 for reservations and information.

CALISTOGA ART CENTER



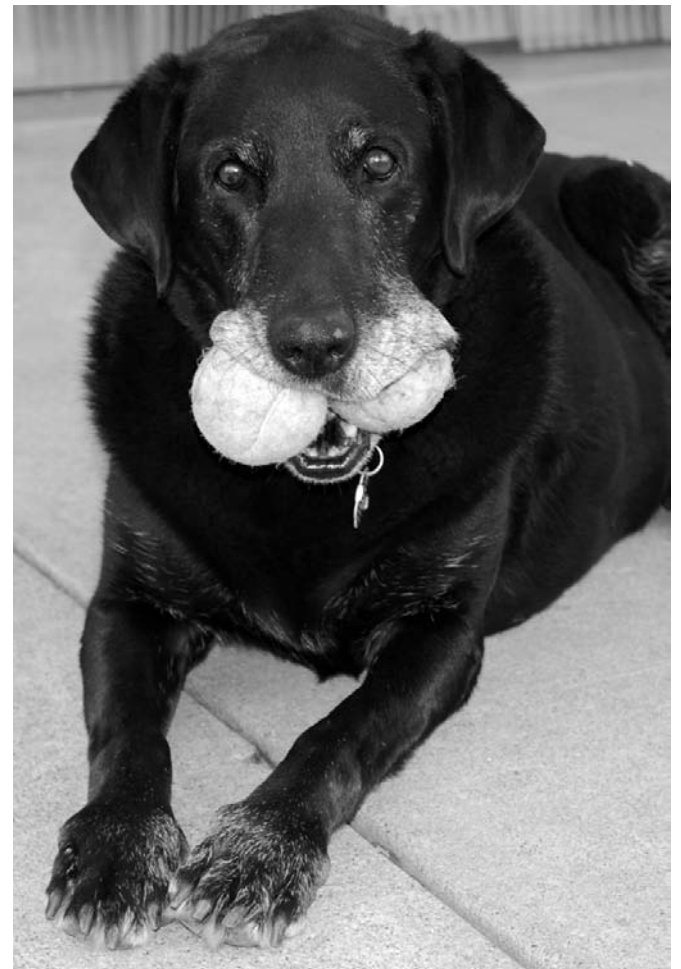
The Calistoga Art Center offers classes for all ages.

The Calistoga Art Center was formed in 2002 by community members and art enthusiasts to expand and enrich the arts in the Napa Valley through education, experience, awareness and involvement.

The Calistoga Art Center is in the Cropp Building on North Oak Street at the fairgrounds.

Programming in the visual arts, ceramics, painting, drawing, photography, graphic, and textile arts is available.

Call 942-2278 or go to www.calistogaartcenter.org for more information and class schedules.



"It takes a great dog to make good wine."

– Vincent Arroyo

There is no better friend to a farmer than his dog, and at Vincent Arroyo Winery we are blessed with two exceptional canines. JJ, our Black Labrador, came to the winery after the harvest of 1999. JJ started making wine in the Arroyo tradition with a 2002 Chenin Blanc called "JJ's First." Vincent quickly realized that JJ was a natural

winemaker, so he soon advanced her to the red program where she has been making "JJ's Blend" ever since. Like many celebrity dogs, JJ has launched her own clothing line and her items can be purchased in our retail shop at the winery. In May of 2007 the winery's Chocolate Lab Bodega released her first wine which bears her signature name. The 2004 Bodega is a Bordeaux blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc. Come play anytime. Bring your own tennis ball.



VINCENT ARROYO WINERY
2361 GREENWOOD AVENUE
CALISTOGA • (707) 942-6995

COQUEREL
Continued from page 9

try things that people don't try," Barbe observed. "One day it was Clay, who is a doctor, and he's a scientist, too. He came to me and he said, 'Why don't you do a white wine, a dry wine, with the Verdelho?' And we bottled it, and they created a label, and they put it on the market. He did the same with the Petite Sirah. He said, 'Let's try 50 cases.' So we did it, and we did the same with the Tempranillo."

Coquerel has an admirer and customer in Scott Turnbull, the beverage director at the Michelin-starred Solbar in Calistoga. He's poured the Coquerel Verdelho for Solbar guests from five-gallon kegs. A sommelier in Cabernet country who buys a white wine in frat party increments that few outside of Portugal have ever heard of is either as crazy as the people who make it, or otherwise, like said winemakers, has something figured out.

"One day Christine just stopped by Solbar with a little sample bottle from the tank and said, 'Hey, I'm from just up the road, a small winery, and we make Verdelho!'" Turnbull recalled. "It was very exciting to hear there was Verdelho from Calistoga at all. It's one of those great things about living here, how a lot of these relationships

just sort of start. People drop in, and everyone's in the wine business one way or another, it seems. We just started from there. It was really an easy decision. And we've had a great, great run with it."

Just as the Petite Sirah case production jumped from 50 to almost 400 cases in four years based on high quality and demand, it's not unlikely that Coquerel's unique Tempranillo will do the same. Like the Verdelho and Sauvignon Blancs, both estate red wines are show-stopping in their combination of power and restraint (see sidebar). Holding onto Prager Winery as a client makes financial sense to the Cockerells for now, but having access to decidedly atypical estate fruit allows Barbe to stick to Brenda's mantra to "create their own reputation" by making wine from a Calistoga AVA property that isn't Cabernet Sauvignon.

Asked if there's a Coquerel estate winery in their future, Brenda noted that, after a long planning process, they've been approved for a medium-size winery of up to 75,000 gallons. Their goal though as artisan producers is to construct a "not-so-huge" winery.

"We don't know how big it's going to get. But what we're comfortable doing now is something that's big enough to make our wine, and Christine's [Toquade], and do a little custom crush."

The Cockerells will also

eventually build a home among the vines. "We are Texans, but we love what we're doing in the Napa Valley," she said. "Christine has really listened to us and has taken what our dream is and made it a reality."

Since that inspiring trip to Bordeaux in 2005 and subsequently deciding they needed to carve out a space for their own wine in Napa Valley, Brenda and Clay have begun to settle into Calistoga. But with her husband's practice and laboratory mostly keeping him in Dallas, Brenda has been the one taking the lead to develop the Coquerel identity in this small town and valley.

"It's not slick—it is what it is. It's surprising in a small way," she summed up at the end of the phone call. "What we like about the people in Calistoga, the different winemakers that we've met, is that everybody's sort of doing a different thing, but everybody is incredibly friendly and outgoing. What we like particularly about our vineyard is that we produce varieties that I don't think everyone thinks of, you know, as wine from the Napa Valley. You know, the Tempranillo is different. We hope that we're making Sauvignon Blanc that's distinctive and that is something that is uniquely ours, that it's not like other Sauvignon Blancs produced in the world. So I'm hoping that that is coming through, because that's certainly what we seek to do."

Tony Poer's Tasting Notes
Coquerel



Winemaker Christine Barbe and proprietors Brenda and Clay Cockerell also purchase fruit from growers to produce small quantities of Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnay from Napa Valley and Pinot Noir from the Sonoma Coast, but the five wines below, four of which bear the Calistoga appellation, are the backbone of the unique Coquerel project.

2012 Coquerel Verdelho, Calistoga, Napa Valley
Citrus-melon nose, aromatic, chalky and mineral notes. Abundant acidity, very bright and crisp. Light-bodied but fairly intense. Citrusy fruit, dried apricot, touch of grapefruit through the finish. Lovely white, a definite oyster wine. **\$18, 470 cases**

2012 Le Petit Coquerel Sauvignon Blanc, Napa Valley
Intensely mineral/flinty nose, lots of citrus, very aromatic. Fresh lime, "green" berries, hints of green and yellow peppers, ripe melon, light bodied through finish. Great balance, very dry. Pure Sauvignon character. A wine for goat cheese. **\$22, 1900 cases**

2012 Terroir Coquerel Sauvignon Blanc, Calistoga, Napa Valley
Ripe fig and melon nose, hints of sweet oak, caramel, bergamot, spice. Broad texture, very rich, lemon tart, meringue, dried fig. Very understated, Bordeaux-like complexity. Integrated acidity, long finish. A classy wine for fancy fish dishes. **\$32, 170 cases**

2011 Terroir Coquerel Tempranillo, Calistoga, Napa Valley
Leather, dried cherry, orange peel, herbs on complex nose. Very firm tannins but medium texture, very bright. Red cherry, blackberry, meaty, dry, spicy, old-world/Rioja-like. Super elegant. Lamb sirloin or quail would work well. **\$39, 75 cases**

2010 Coquerel La Petite Sirah, Calistoga, Napa Valley
Intense black fruit nose, spicy-gamey, hints of minerals. Wild blackberry, black cherry, plum, cured meat, grilled herbs, big texture, very good acidity. Syrah-like. Gamey enough for venison or wild boar. An exemplary Petite Sirah, more complex than most. **\$35, 390 cases**

Calistoga

St. Helena

SONOMA VALLEY

SANTA ROSA

Bodega Bay

HEALDSBURG

DEANN WYLIE

BROKER/OWNER

LISTING AGENT

SINCE 2003

RECENT CALISTOGA HOME SALES

FROM 5/27/14 TO 6/27/14

RESIDENTIAL HOMES

ADDRESS	BR/BA	SQFT	LOT SF	SALE PRICE
2429 Debbie Way	3/2	1361	6098	\$445,000
1701 N. Oak St	3/1	1011	7405	\$565,000
5144 Sharp Rd	3/2.5	2640	3.33 ac	\$635,000
1508 Fair Way	4/4	2325	10,018	\$710,000
3939 Silverado Trail	3/3.5	4867	6.26 ac	\$3,575,000

MOBILE HOMES (SENIOR 55+)

ADDRESS	BR/BA	SQFT	RENT/MO	SALE PRICE
2412 Foothill #137	2/2	1440	650	\$26,000
2412 Foothill #94	2/2	1248	654	\$35,000
409 S. Burgundy St	2/2	1400	685	\$46,500
224 Champagne Cir W	2/2	1344	589	\$55,000
709 Claret Ct S	2/2	1480	548	\$61,000
2412 Foothill #124	2/2	1296	650	\$89,900
115 Ivy Ln	2/2	1440	489	\$119,000

Public Information Service Provided by BAREIS MLS

CALL, OR TEXT "NOW SHOWING", FOR

FREE LIST OF HOMES FOR SALE

707.328.4891

Come Home to

Celebrate

Centrally located just five minutes from both Calistoga and St. Helena on Highway 29, Tucker Farm Center offers a unique historic setting for all of your special events and gatherings. For information on renting Tucker Farm Center for your special event, please contact Ron Vulstkye at 707-484-3413.

TUCKER FARM CENTER

1201 Tucker Road, Calistoga

A Community Ad Partnership with the Calistoga Tribune

Uncorking fun wine facts

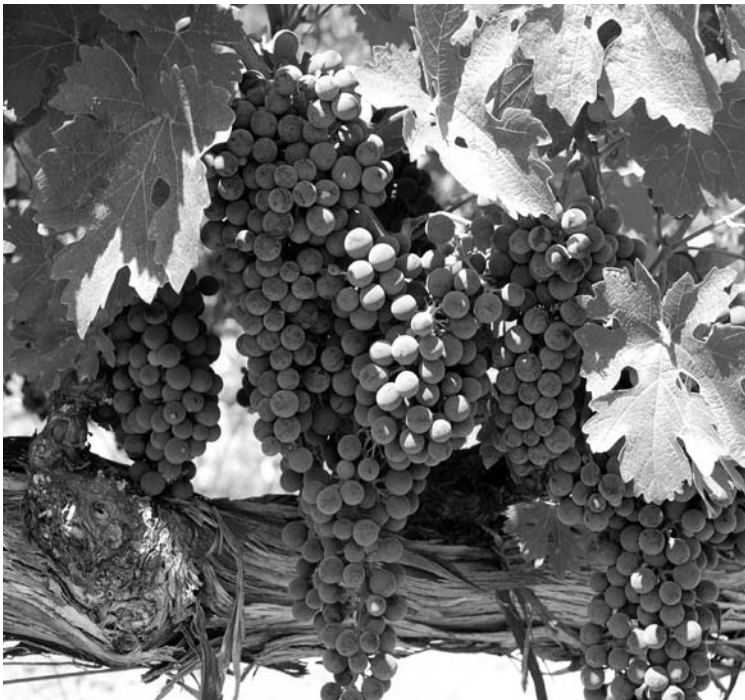
Napa Valley’s rare diversity of microclimates is ideal for growing fine wine grapes.

While Cabernet and Chardonnay are the most widely planted wine grapes, the Napa Valley holds many surprises for wine lovers looking for varieties off the beaten path.

Here are the most popular varietals planted in the valley:

Cabernet Sauvignon is the acknowledged “king” of red grapes in Napa Valley. Some Napa Valley Cabernet vines from the 19th century are still producing, but most were replanted in the last 20 years. Cabernet Sauvignon is a complex grape; its character can emerge as black currants, green olives, herbs, bell peppers or combinations of these with mint and leather. These wines age beautifully. When young they are best matched with robust red meat dishes; older Cabernets are superb accompaniments to roasts and steaks, and also complement many cheeses.

Chardonnay is among the most widely planted grape variety in Napa Valley. In France, the



great white Burgundies are made from the Chardonnay grape and Napa Valley labels have repeatedly won wine-tasting competitions against them, even in France! Napa Valley makes several types of Chardonnay, ranging from fresh, crisp wines to rich, complex wines with layers of flavors. With such a wide range of

styles, Napa Valley Chardonnays accompany a variety of dishes, from simply prepared seafood to lighter red meats.

Merlot has long been available in Napa Valley. Traditionally used as a blending wine, Merlot gained popularity in the early 1970s. Wines made from Merlot show lovely cherry-like aromas with hints of their sibling Cabernet’s herbaceousness. Because Merlot’s tannins are softer than those found in Cabernet, the wines are drinkable at an earlier age than most Cabernets. At the same time, Merlots reward aging by gaining finesse and complexity much as Cabernets do. Serve Merlot with any dish that calls for Cabernet or try it with lighter meats such as pork or veal.

Pinot Noir has been called the fickle grape variety because it makes some of the world’s best wines (Burgundian red) but is also one of the most difficult grapes both to grow and vinify. In France, these wines are exceptional only a few years in a decade. In California it has taken decades to make truly great Pinot Noir, and much progress has been made in the last eight to 10 years. Pinot Noir is less tannic and has less pigment than Cabernet and Merlot, so the wines are somewhat lighter. They can be very drinkable at two to five years of age and the best will improve for several years after that.

Sangiovese is an Italian varietal that has gone from cult status to full-blown success in the ‘90s. Napa Valley produces Sangioveses that are often ready to enjoy upon release. With hints of cherries, black tea and spice these wines enhance a wide variety of foods. Certainly with an array of creamy dishes and cheeses, mushrooms and game, this wine says mangia! In the mouth, Sangiovese is usually lighter than Cabernet, yet more full-bodied than its French cousins such as Gamay and can be as comfortable at a well-set table as at a picnic.

Sauvignon Blanc grapes make wines that appear under two names: Sauvignon Blanc and Fumé Blanc (a regional French nickname is “blanc Fumé”). These wines are increasingly popular as they have a distinctive character, often described as fruity with a touch of herbaceousness, and very good acidity. As with Chardonnay, you will find a range of styles — those that are crisp and “grassy” and others that have a ripe pineapple richness augmented by an oak bouquet. Because of their acidity, Sauvignon Blanc and Fumé Blanc are very enjoyable with shellfish and seafood.

Zinfandel, one of California’s most versatile and friendly grape varieties, was the mainstay of 19th century winemaking. Much of the world’s Zinfandel acreage is planted in the Napa Valley. This varietal is vinified as a light, easy-drinking red and a heavier, richly flavored version that rewards bottle aging, as well as a white or “blush” wine. With such a range of wine types, there is a Zinfandel for just about every wine enthusiast and for every imaginable food.

Rhone Varietals, chiefly Syrah among the reds and Viognier among whites, and Italian Varietals, chief among them, Sangiovese, as well as Barbera and Dolcetto, are increasingly popular.

For more information on the Napa Valley’s history of grapegrowing and winemaking, go to www.napavintners.com



- One barrel of wine equals roughly 20 cases, which equals 1200 glasses.
- A ton of grapes makes about 720 bottles of wine, or 60 cases.
- One vine annually produces between four and six bottles of wine, or between 20 and 30 glasses.
- Each bottle of wine contains about 2.8 pounds of grapes; therefore each 5-ounce glass of wine contains a little over half a pound of grapes.
- There are between 15 and 45 clusters of grapes per vine.
- One acre of land is home to between 900 and 1,300 vines.

Wine Bottle Quiz

Can you name these different wine bottle sizes?

This big daddy holds 36 bottles of wine

This momma holds 2 cases of wine

This giant holds 20 bottles of wine

This big baby holds 16 bottles of wine

This bottle holds a standard case

This size holds 8 750-ml bottles

Holds 4 750-ml bottles

Magnum

Bottle, holds 750 ml of wine

Half Bottle

Piccolo/Spill/Pony

Goliath

Solomon

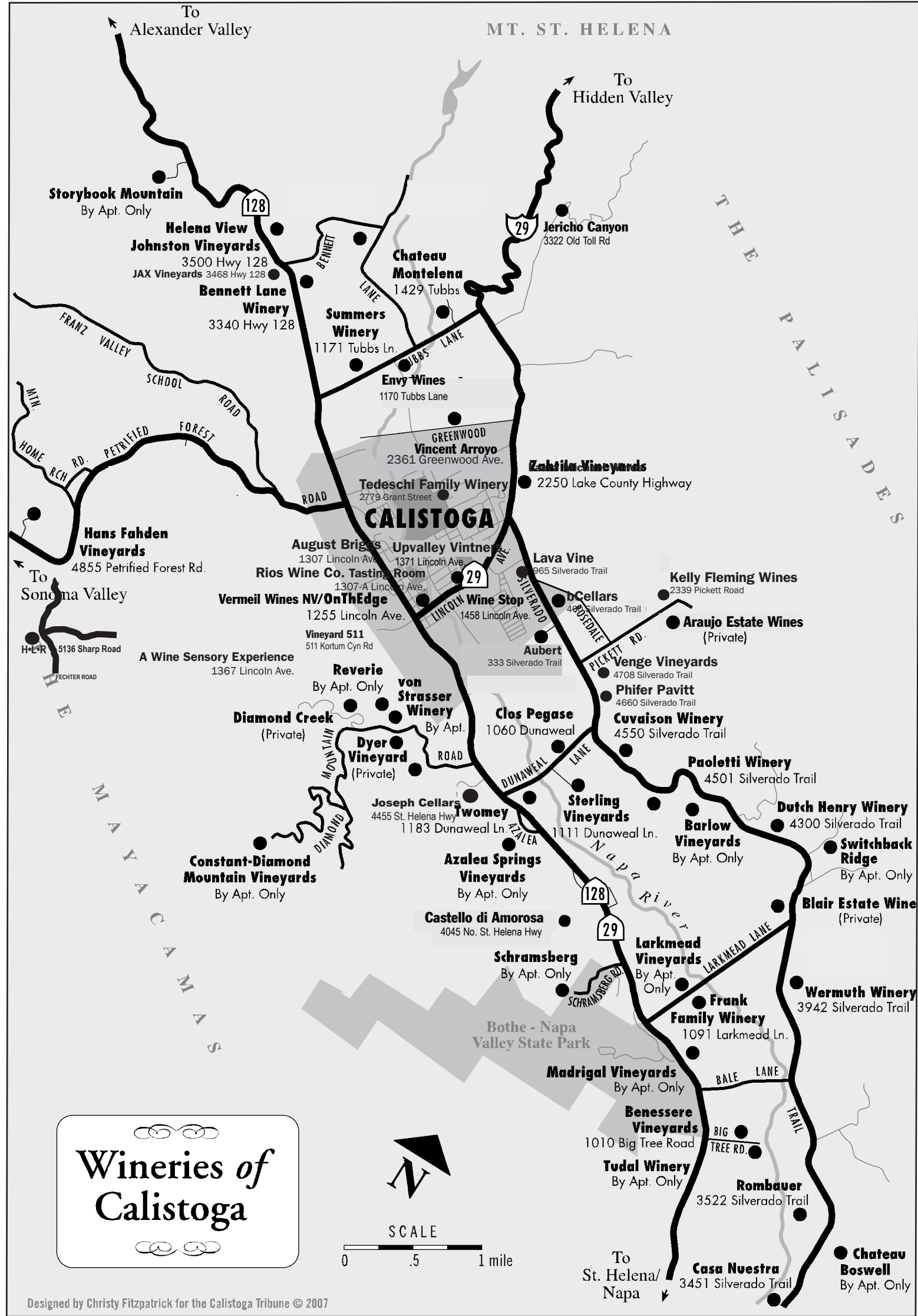
Nebuchadnezzar

Balthazar

Salambazar

Methuselah

Jacobson



- Araujo Estate Wines**
Not open to the public.
www.araujoestate.com
- Arroyo Winery**
942-6995 • 2361 Greenwood Ave.
Mon. – Fri. 10-4:30, Sat – 9:30-4:30,
Sun. 10:30-4. Open by appointment, call
ahead. Renowned for its petite sirah.
- Aubert Wines**
942-4333 • 333 Silverado Trail
Limited tasting appointments.
Call winery for details.
- August Briggs Winery**
942-4912 • 1307 Lincoln Ave.
Open Daily, 11-5, Fri & Sat 1-7
Small lots of hand-crafted varietal wines.
- Azalea Springs Vineyards**
963-1999 • 4301 Azalea Springs
Open by appointment. Produces merlot
and cabernet sauvignon.
- Barlow Vineyards**
942-8742 • 4411 Silverado Trail
By appointment only. 100% varietal
cabernet, merlot and zinfandel wines.
- Bennett Lane Winery**
942-6684 • 3340 Highway 128
10 to 5 daily. Crush tours during harvest,
barrel tastings, chocolate and red wine
pairings every Saturday.
- Blair Estate**
942-8283 • By appointment only.
www.blairstate.net
- Carter Cellars**
(707) 445-0311 • 1170 Tubbs Lane
Open by appointment, call ahead.
- CarverSutro**
Not open to the public.
Produces Petite Syrah exclusively.
www.carversutro.com
- Casa Nuestra Winery**
963-5783 • 3451 Silverado Trail
Daily 10-5. Family winery specializing in
rare varietals and unique blends.
- Castello di Amorosa**
967-6272 • 4045 St. Helena Hwy
Daily 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entrance fee inc.
tasting, \$18 M-Thurs; Children 3-20, ent.
fee \$7. Castle tours are \$33 per person.
- Chateau Montelena**
942-5105 • 1429 Tubbs Lane
Daily 9:30-4. Tasting Fee: \$10.
Tours: 9:30, 1:30. Chardonnay and caber-
net sauvignon.
- Clos Pegase Winery**
942-4981 • 1060 Dunaweal Lane
Daily 10:30-5 Tours: 11, 2. Open to the
public. A crossroads of art and wine.
- Constant-Diamond Mountain**
942-0707 • 2121 Diamond Mtn Road
Open by appointment. Small quantities
from estate cabernet sauvignon grapes.
- Cuvaision Estate Wines**
942-2468 • 4550 Silverado Trail
Daily 10-5. Cave Tours & Tasting: 10:30
daily, fee \$15. Picnic tables.
- Diamond Creek**
Not open to the public.
www.diamondcreekvineyards.com
- Dutch Henry Winery**
942-5771 • 4310 Silverado Trail
Daily 10-4:30. Tasting Fee: \$25.
Waived with purchase of bottle.

CALISTOGA Wineries



Dyer Vineyard

Not open to the public.
www.dyerwine.com

DYN 2880

Not open to the public.
www.dyn2880.com

Envy Wines

942-4670 • 1170 Tubbs Lane
Visit by appt. seven days a week
from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Frank Family Vineyards

(800) 574-9463 • 1091 Larkmead Lane
Daily 10-5. Tasting fee \$20, \$30 for
reserve. Sparkling wines and more.

Hans Fahden Vineyards

942-6760 • 4855 Petrified Forest Rd
Tasting and tours by appointment only.

Harris Estate Vineyards

Not open to the public.

Helena View Johnston Vineyards

942-4956 • 3500 Highway 128
Open by appointment only, afternoons and
weekends.

H•L•R Cellars

942-1725 • 5136 Sharp Road
By appointment only. Heller Vineyards,
offering cab, merlot & proprietary blend.

JAX Vineyards

(415) 446-9505
Open by appointment only.

Jericho Canyon Vineyards

942-9665 • 3322 Old Toll Rd
Open by appointment, closed Sundays.
Sauvignon blanc and cabernet.

Joseph Cellars

942-9999 • 4455 St. Helena Hwy
Wine tasting in cave \$20. Daily by appt.
Estate cabernet sauvignon, old vine zin-
fandel, chardonnay, and sauvignon blanc.

Kelly Fleming Wines

942-6849 • 2339 Pickett Rd
Family-run winery producing Estate cab-
ernet and sauvignon blanc. By appt only.

Kenefick Ranch Vineyard

942-6175 • 2200 Pickett Rd
Not open to the public.

Knighton Family Vineyards

Not open to the public.
Makes cabernet sauvignon exclusively.

Knights Bridge Winery

Not open to the public.
www.knightsbridgewinery.com

Larkmead Vineyards

942-0167 • 1100 Larkmead Lane
Open daily by appointment only. Historic,
property producing estate cabernet, Bor-
deaux blends and sauvignon blanc.

La Sirena

942-1105 • PO Box 441
Tastings by appt. only. Cabernet, syrahs,
dry muscat and more by Heidi Barrett.

Lava Vine

942-9500 • 965 Silverado Trail
Complimentary tasting with purchase.

Madrigal Vineyards

942-6577 • 3718 N. St. Helena Hwy.
Three generations of the Madrigal family
have farmed the vineyards of the Napa
Valley. Call for a tour and tasting.

Paoletti Winery

942-0689 • 4501 Silverado Trail
Thurs. - Sun. 9-5 Open by appointment.
Cabernet, malbec & sangiovese.

Phifer Pavitt

942-4787 • 4660 Silverado Trail
Tastings by appointment only. Mondays -
Saturdays, at 11 a.m. or 1 p.m., at a cost
of \$25/person. Makes cabernet.

Rancho de las Flores Cellars

942-5924 • 3942 Silverado Trail
Open for tasting 11-4, near daily. Caber-
net and Blanco from colombard grapes.

Reverie

942-6800 • 1520 Diamond Mtn Road
By appointment only. Small, ultra-premi-
um cabernet sauvignon winery.

Schramsberg

942-4558 • 1400 Schramsberg Road
Tasting and tours by appointment only.
Six vintage dated and two multi-vintage
sparklers are produced each year.

Shypoke

942-0420 • 2882A Foothill Blvd
Producers of charbono, sangiovese and
petite syrah. www.shypoke.com

Sterling Vineyards

942-3344 • 1111 Dunawear Lane
Daily 10-4:30. Self-paced tours all day.
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the top of the hill for breathtaking views.

Storybook Mountain

942-5310 • 3835 Hwy 128
Tasting and tours by appt. only, free with
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Summers Estate Wines

942-5508 • 1171 Tubbs Lane
Daily 10:30-5 Standard tasting fee: \$15.
Tours & other options available, call for
info. Email or call for appt. Email sales@
summerswinery.com

Switchback Ridge

Not open to the public.
www.switchbackridge.com

Tank Garage Winery

942-8265 • 1020 Foothill Blvd (Hwy 29)
Open 10 am-5 pm. Tasting fee \$20.

T-Vine

942-1543 • 810 Foothill Blvd (Hwy 29)
Open daily for tours and tasting 10-4:30
Tasting fee \$20.

Tedeschi Family Winery

(707) 501-0668 • 2779 Grant St.
emilvine@napa.net
Small family winery produces handcrafted
wines. Call or e-mail for VIP tasting.

Tom Eddy

942-4267 • PO Box 1096
By appt. only. www.tommeddywines.com.

Tudal Winery

963-3947 • 1015 Big Tree Road
Open daily for tours and tasting by appt.

Twomey Cellars

942-2489 • 1183 Dunawear Lane
Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 11-5. Merlot, saui-
gnon blanc and pinot noir wines.

Upvalley Vintners

942-1004 • 1371 Lincoln Ave.
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Zacherle, Barlow & Toffanelli wines.

Venge Vineyards

942-9100 • 4708 Silverado Trail
By appointment only.

Vermeil Wines /OnthEdge Winery

341-3054 • 1255 Lincoln Ave.
NFL coach and Calistoga native Dick
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Vineyard 511

511 Kortum Canyon Road
Not open to the public

von Strasser Winery

942-0930 • 1510 Diamond Mtn Road
Daily 10:30 to 4:30, call for reservations.

Wallis Family Estate

Not open to the public.
www.wallisestate.com

Work Vineyard

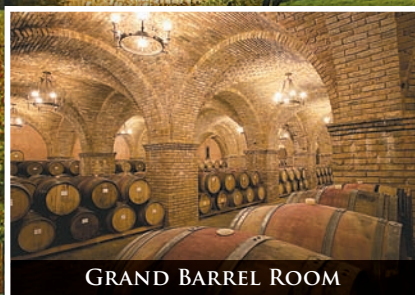
942-0251 • www.workvineyard.com
By appointment, call or e-mail.

Zahtila Vineyards

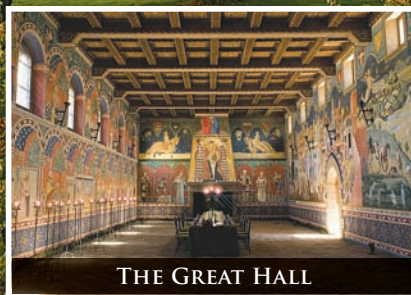
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