

FREE  
Guide

# Mud City Weekender

ALL THINGS CALISTOGA

OCTOBER 2014



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*Special tasting  
this month!*



# Calistoga Wine Stop

In the historic yellow Calistoga Depot, 1458 Lincoln Avenue

Fall harvest and crush is one of our favorite seasons in wine country, and we've asked one of our special wine partners to pour this month:

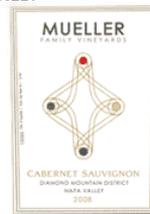
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Calistoga – The West’s Original Hot Springs Resort Town

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



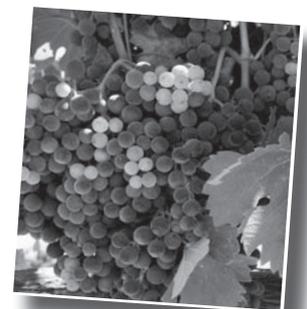
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# Welcome to the Mud City Weekender, your best guide to all things Calistoga



**Sam Brannan**  
Founder  
of Calistoga

**Y**ou 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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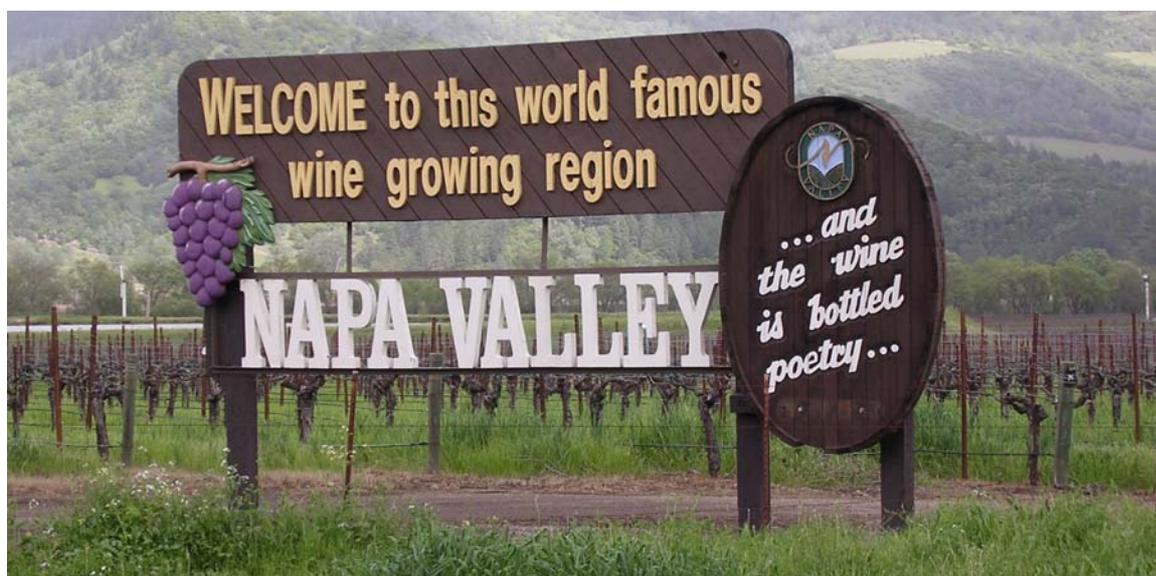
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Calistoga Theater Company presents

# 4,000 Miles

By Ann Scot

SPECIAL TO THE MUD CITY WEEKENDER

Vera and Leo, with five decades and 3,000 miles separating them, suddenly become roommates at Vera's cramped, New York City apartment.

During Leo's short stay, the pair not only become re-acquainted, but develop a deeper bond as grandmother and grandson. This is the beauty of the play 4,000 Miles, soon to be performed at the Calistoga Art Center by the Calistoga Theater Company.

After a cross-country bicycle journey, Leo arrives at his grandmother Vera's Greenwich Village apartment. A shattering experience during his trip leaves Leo needing time to recover and wanting some love and understanding. He hopes his girlfriend, who is attending college in New York, will be a support for him, but she has other ideas.

As Vera watches Leo with concern, we soon learn that she has her own stories to tell. Her background with the Communist Party, her deceased husband, what she thinks of everything (including Leo's girlfriend), her quirky sense of humor, are all essential parts of her wonderful character, traits which seem to push many of Leo's buttons. We witness not only outbursts, but also humor, compassion, honesty and, of course, deep caring.

4,000 Miles is about the healing power of love and the surprising places we find it. It won an Obie for Best Dramatic Play of 2012 and was nominated for a Pulitzer for Drama in 2013.

The play expresses our very human need to heal grief by connecting with others through love. The playwright, Amy Herzog, draws on her own grandmother's life to portray a thoroughly feisty woman and to demonstrate how



COURTESY PHOTO

*Danielle Devitt as Amanda and Gabriel Frey as Leo, the grandson, in the Calistoga Theatre Company's latest stage production, 4,000 Miles, on stage Oct. 16-26 on weekends.*

her honesty and compassion (a quality she sees as a central part of Communism) are able to reach across a generation to a grandson who needs her love.

4,000 Miles is directed by Calistoga's own talented artistic director Sharie Renault, who has directed theater in Berkeley, St. Helena and Calistoga, most recently with the Calistoga Theater Company. This is her sixth production at the Calistoga Art Center.

The Calistoga Theater Company, which will launch its new website ([www.CalistogaTheaterCompany.com](http://www.CalistogaTheaterCompany.com)) on Oct. 16 has cast a thought-provoking, dynam-

ic ensemble to entertain, engage and transform an audience.

4,000 Miles will feature both veteran actors (Mary Clay Connaway as Vera) as well as new talent (Gabriel Frey as Leo, Danielle Devitt as Amanda and Star Stone as Bec). 4,000 Miles will be performed at the Calistoga Art Center for two weekends: on Thursday, Oct. 16, 7 p.m.; Friday/Saturday, Oct. 17, 18, 8 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 19, 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 23, 7 p.m.; Friday/Saturday, Oct. 24, 25, 8 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 26, 5:30 p.m.

See 4,000 Miles on page 7

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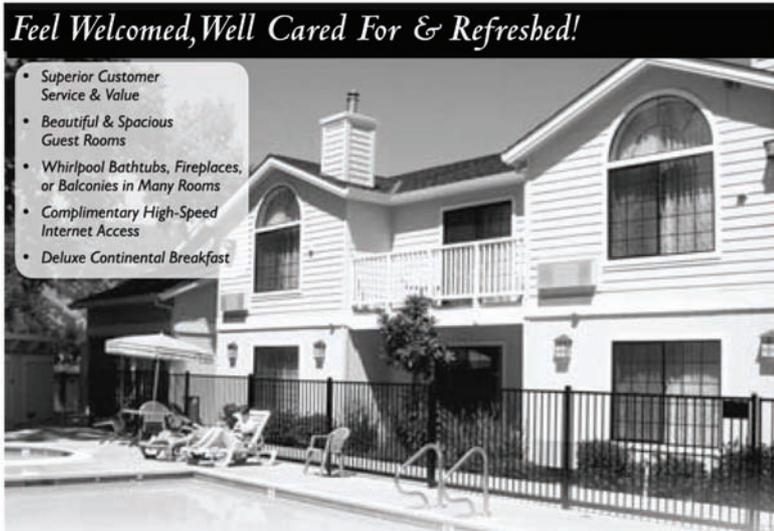
M. Antoine



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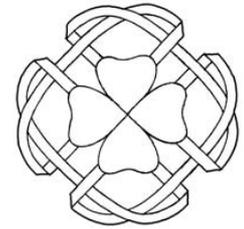
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# Celtic Cards

by M. Antoine *OCTOBER 2014*



## Aries

*March 21-April 19*

As you head into the Autumn months you may experience a loss of weight. Your physical self is making adjustments, and you just need to go along with things. Changes in your job, or in the way you always do things at home will also happen. This is a good time to acquire new appliances.

## Taurus

*April 20-May 20*

Make sure that your home is in order. Safety and security are paramount issues, and need to be addressed. Physical and financial security will stabilize as you go into the next few months. Someone will try to annoy you and may use gossip as a tool. Ignore them.

## Gemini

*May 21-June 20*

A period of inspiration is dawning, and this could lead to great creativity and profitable ideas. You know what you want and will be able to express your needs with perfect clarity. Energy and motion are your key words, and great things could result from your endeavors.

## Cancer

*June 21-July 22*

Throughout the next few months you will be in a position of attraction. This may be in a romantic or material sense, but you will be surprised by many new experiences. Family members will have more needs than usual, and you are in a position to handle whatever comes your way.

## Leo

*July 23-August 22*

It is time to relax. Minor health issues could crop up if you do not take a break. Many interesting situations may arise that are karmic based, and you need to see them through, as it is time to "pay up" on some past events. Family time is very important right now.

## Virgo

*August 23-September 22*

This is a time of tempering, purifying, and cutting away the bonds that have held you back in some of your goals. This is the time when you take care of yourself first, and then others if you have the energy to do so. It is time for physical, emotional and spiritual healing.

## Libra

*September 23-October 22*

A period of illumination and awareness is upon you. A time of realization that the universe is bigger than you thought, and that it is full of learning and teaching opportunities. Being involved with younger persons will enhance your life immensely.

## Scorpio

*October 23-November 21*

An increase in your physical energy levels will push you forward to new discoveries. Things that you were afraid to do before will become exciting challenges that will inspire you to do more and more. Travel to a new destination is on the books for the coming season ahead. Enjoy yourself.

## Sagittarius

*November 22-December 21*

The time has come to bring balance and harmony into your life. Take several deep breaths and re-evaluate all that is important and necessary for your survival. This is the time to dump a lot of the emotional garbage that gets carried around. There is a new you on the horizon.

## Capricorn

*December 22-January 19*

Learning a new trade or hobby at this time will bring many future years of pleasure and enjoyment. Joining a group of like-minded individuals will enhance your social circle, and lead to travel and an appreciation of other cultures. It's time for new luggage.

## Aquarius

*January 20-February 18*

The ups and downs of life have been wearing away at you, and your energy levels are low. Things are about to change as the season changes also. The pace will become easier to handle, and allow you to appreciate the beauty of autumn's colors and smells. Long walks will be very healing.

## Pisces

*February 19-March 20*

You are nearing the end of a goal, and the results will be most rewarding and satisfying. A long period of intense labor is about to ease into a slower paced way of life. Enjoy family and friends over the next few months, and tighten the bonds of close relationships.



Get your **FREE Chart Wheel** at  
[kamalotastrology.com](http://kamalotastrology.com)

**4,000 Miles**

*Continued from page 5*

Doors open 30 minutes prior to show times, the performances are open seating and wine and treats available for purchase.

Tickets are available online at [www.Calistogaartcenter.org](http://www.Calistogaartcenter.org) or at Calistoga Art Center or Funke's.

This year's raffle prizes are both a new Electra Cruiser bicycle donated by the Calistoga Bikeshop and a basket of bicycle accessories courtesy of Silverado Ace Hardware.

Raffle tickets will be on sale prior to each performance, as well as the Calistoga Farmers Market, Calistoga Bikeshop and Silverado Ace Hardware.

For more information or to buy tickets, call: 707-341-3278.

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**4,000 Miles by Amy Herzog**

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Oct. 16, 17, 18, 19 and

Oct. 23, 24, 25, 26

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*Mary Clay Conaway as Vera, the grandmother and Gabriel Frey as Leo, the grandson in 4,000 Miles, a play by Amy Herzog being staged by the Calistoga Theater Company in October at the Calistoga Art Center on North Oak Street.*

COURTESY PHOTO

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Pepperwood Preserve is hosting the California Indian Basketweavers Association and their 2014 Tending the Wild workshop from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 25 or Sunday, Oct. 26. Meet some of the finest Master Weavers, gain insight into one of California's oldest art traditions, and learn about traditional Native land stewardship practices.

Participants will have an opportunity to learn about and work with the plant fibers California Indian basket weavers use. Attendees will identify, clean, trim and split fibers from juncas, sedge, willow, bracken fern root and redbud. They will also be introduced to special instruments that can analyze historic hand-crafted baskets.

Highlights include presentations by M. Kat Anderson, ethno-botanist and author of the book *Tending the Wild*, and Ben Benson, Pepperwood's Cultural Resources Coordinator and resident anthropologist.

Saturday or Sunday tickets include lunch and cost \$60 general, \$50 CIBA members, or \$40 currently enrolled college students.

For more information visit the CIBA website at [www.ciba.org/tending-the-wild](http://www.ciba.org/tending-the-wild)

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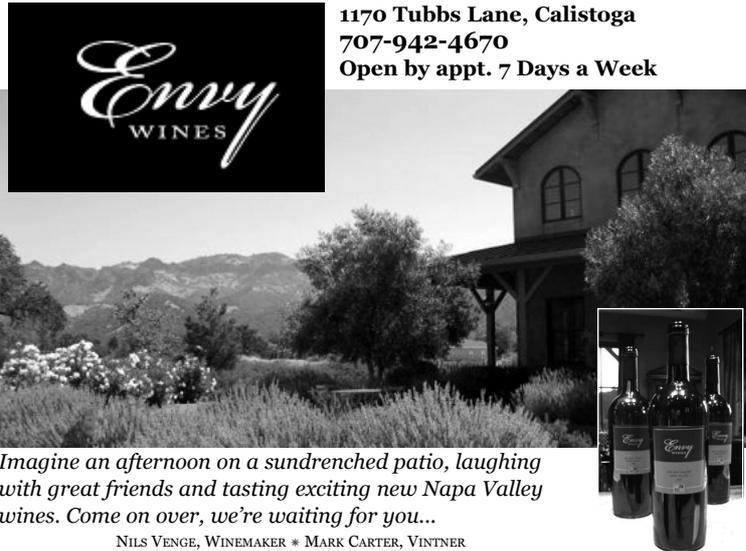
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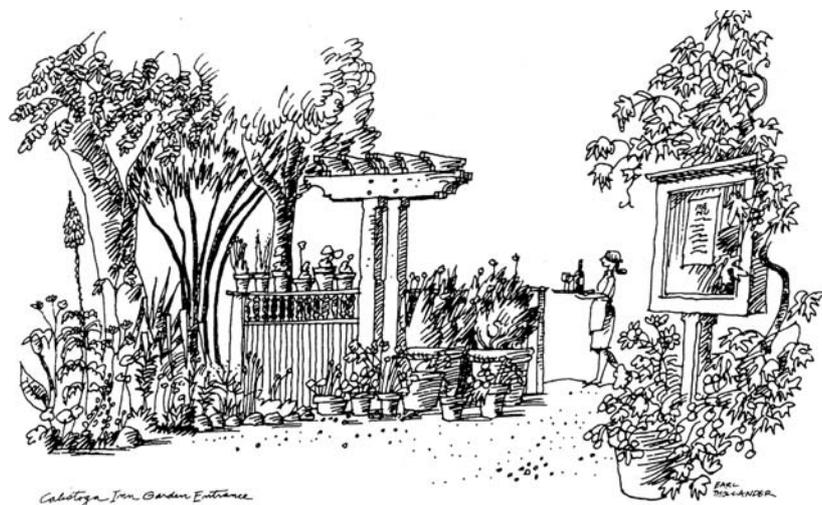


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*50 years ago it was known as Hell Week*

# The Hanly Fire

**By Kathy Bazzoli**

FOR THE MUD CITY WEEKENDER

Another beautiful and calm Fall morning began on Saturday, September 19, 1964. Unbeknownst to the people of Calistoga, the hot ash of a hunter's cigarette was about to hit the ground on the innocent slopes of Mt. St. Helena just off Hwy. 29 at the Hanly Property. So began the infamous Hanly Fire, which unfortunately for the California State Division of Forestry, was only one of ninety-four fires that were burning between September 18 and September 28 in Napa, Lake, Sonoma, Mendocino, Solano and Humboldt Counties.

Although few of these fires exceeded 100 acres, the Hanly fire devastated 52,700 acres, an equivalent of 105,000,000 bd. ft. of timber (valued at 1.5 million dollars in 1964), leveled eighty four homes, twenty four summer cabins and countless farm buildings.

The Hanly Fire was actually believed to be contained as early as Sunday, Sept. 20, with the exception of a minor flare-up near Robert Louis Stevenson State Park. Then around midnight came the 70 mile per hour devil winds, and more winds, driving the fire down the slopes of Mt. St. Helena encircling Calistoga on the north and east sides. Although the town was partially evacuated, many chose to stay and fight the fire on their own and as volunteers.

The winds continued. Warm, dry, gusty and unrelenting taking the fire to the historic Tubbs Mansion burning it to the ground. A short time later, the fire appeared again to be held, but at mid-day Monday, another small ember ignites a spot fire on the ridge west of Hwy. 128 between Calistoga and Kellogg.

The fire took off racing into Knights Valley and then turned south. By late the same day, it is now in Franz Valley. More



*The Hanly Fire of September 1964 devastated 52,700 acres, an equivalent of 105,000,000 bd. ft. of timber (valued at 1.5 million dollars in 1964), leveled 84 homes, 24 summer cabins and countless farm buildings. It burned from Calistoga to Santa Rosa.*

*Volunteers (left) fight the Nunn's Canyon fire in Sonoma County.*

PRESS DEMOCRAT PHOTO

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See *HANLY* page 11

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# Cedar Street Festival raising funds for kids' art classes

**S**ustaining the arts, one neighborhood at a time, a local couple has organized a cross-cultural community-building event to benefit the children of Napa Valley with art sponsorships to Calistoga Art Center and Nimbus Arts.

The Cedar Street Festival is set for Sunday, Oct. 5 along Calistoga's iconic Cedar Street.

Three quarters of a mile of

amazing neighborhood rummage, art, and antiques sales are planned from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Live music, dancing, face painting, family art activities, raffle ticket sales for stellar raffle prizes, and other adventurous surprise activities take place at Pioneer Park from noon to 2:30 p.m.

Raffle prize drawings and the festival's culminating, band-led

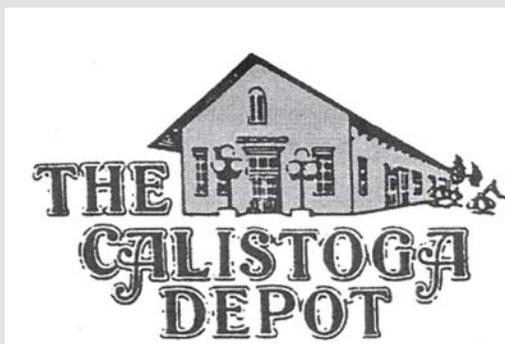
dance of fools procession, "La danse d'imbéciles," happens from 2:30-3 p.m.

Founders Molly McGowan and Robert Marvan said donated proceeds will help pay for 10,000 hours of free art for children shared with both Calistoga Art Center and Nimbus Arts.

"This event is a celebration of Calistoga, the unique Cedar Street community, great neighbors

coming together for an important cause," said Marvan. Marvan is very inspired to use this festival to raise funds for the up valley art centers believing that "Exposure to the arts for children deepens the quality of their world and in particular the developing young mind and spirit."

Founders Molly McGowan and Robert Marvan.

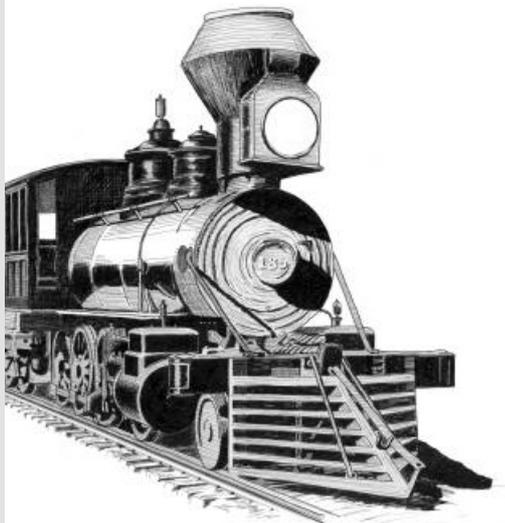


**WANDER THE HISTORIC STATION, PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND**



**CLIMB ABOARD THE 7 VINTAGE RAIL CARS DATING FROM 1866 TO 1929.**

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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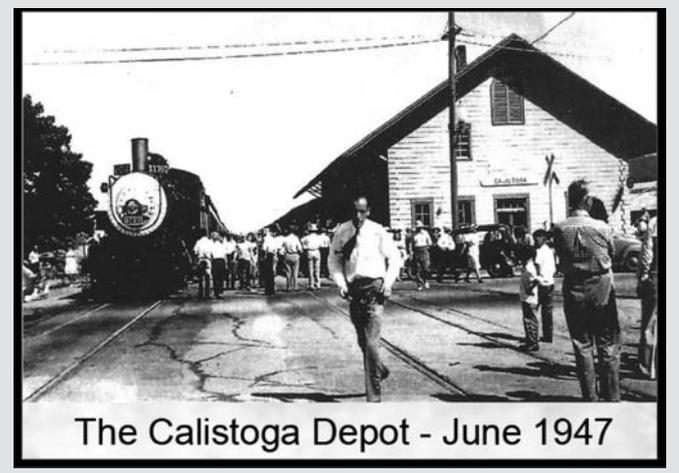
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Open 10-6 5-5



**HANLY**

*Continued from page 9*

destruction such as the Malugani and Beale homes, now nothing but burnt rubble. The winds will not let up throwing embers and small balls of fire ahead forming a fire front down Mark West Canyon and heading straight for Santa Rosa.

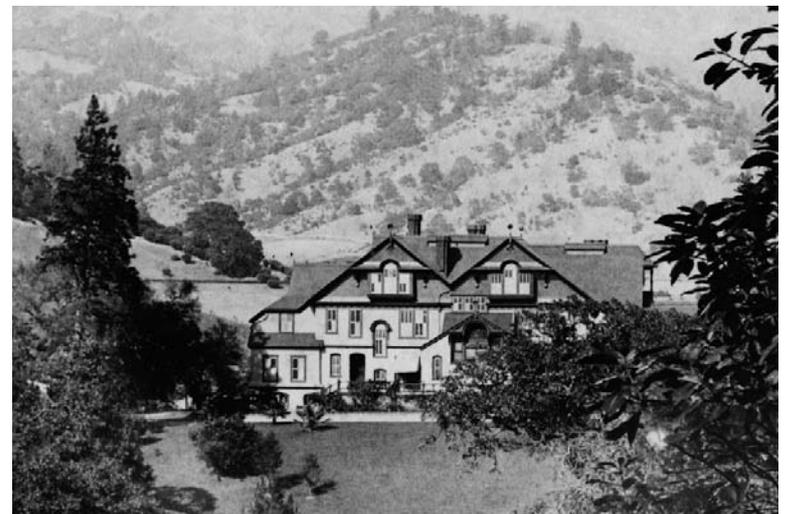
Just as the fire to the south began dying, on Thursday the far north perimeter on the high slopes of Mt. St. Helena erupts. A hand-to-fire battle ensues and aerial tankers again take to the sky. This battle ultimately brings the Hanly Fire finally under control on Saturday, the fire's seventh and last day.

The Hanly fire not only spread flames, but spread terror and destruction. In its wake was the loss of timber, homes and farmland. In all, nearly 1800 men battled the fires. Forestry, fireman from all surrounding county's, local citizens, volunteers as young as highschoolers and college students, inmates from San Quentin and Folsom Prison battled side by side together against this inferno. Aerial tanker sorties, bulldozers with catskinners, and tractors were in force, large equipment as well as shovels and hoes in hand were used. Young hero's strapped on 5-gallon backpacks with hand-pumps and walked directly into the fire to douse what flames they could. Home and property owners kept hoses running to fend off the flames if the threat came to



COURTESY PHOTO

*The remains of Tubbs Mansion after the Hanly Fire of 1964 swept across the dry hillsides north of Calistoga and continued west.*



COURTESY PHOTO

*The elegant Tubbs Mansion, built in 1880 by Calistoga tycoon Alfred P. Tubbs, before the Hanly Fire of 1964.*



COURTESY PHOTO

*Calistoga Volunteer Fire Department members who fought the 1964 Hanly fire at an annual moose feed hosted by mayor John Ghisolfo.*

close.

The fire had become a living nightmare for hundreds of people, but on the seventh day they rested. The fire was gone,

and not one human life was lost.

"The smoke has now cleared revealing the blackened earth and trees – many years will pass before the land scars fade and the

personal loss and human courage is forgotten."

Fifty years has now passed and many "old timers" still talk about that week. They can tell you exactly where they were and what they doing when the news of

the fire first hit. They can personally attest to the scores of friends, neighbors, and strangers that pulled together for seven long days to save our town, our home, our Calistoga.

Thank you, whomever you are.

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CEDAR STREET FESTIVAL

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2014**

|                   |                                      |                         |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 9:00 am - 1:00 pm | Yard Sales Up & Down Cedar Street    | Every \$20 donation =   |
| Noon - 3:00 pm    | Art Activities in Pioneer Park       | 2 hours of free art for |
|                   | Live Music & Dancing in the Street   | a Napa Valley child.    |
| 2:30 pm           | Raffle Drawing with Fabulous Prizes! |                         |

[calistogaartcenter.org](http://calistogaartcenter.org)

[nimbusarts.org](http://nimbusarts.org)



Proprietor Margaret Law with her own dog, Brooke, and two guests at Calistoga Doggie Day Care, a new business catering to dogs under 25 lbs who enjoy socializing, play, and human company during the day.

**By Christine Plant**

MUD CITY WEEKENDER

When Margaret Law got her new Cock-a-poo Brooke, she wanted to give her dog a great start in life.

Recognizing the pup was a little skittish, she made plans to socialize her at the local Calistoga Pet Clinic day care facility owned by Dr. Steve Franquelin. However, there were no immediate openings in the busy day care program. Necessity sparked an idea. Jokingly she thought, "I'll bring the dogs to me then!"

Socializing her pup was the driving force that started her new canine care operation.

Today, locals and tourists alike can call on Law to drop off their dog for a day visit to avoid having the family pet spend endless hours alone. Or if you're visiting in town and want to dine out, Law can dog-sit while you dine in the comfort of knowing your pet is being pampered, too.

Calistoga Doggie Day Care was launched in June 2014. Having first sought Dr. Franquelin's advice, she then surveyed her neighbors for their approval. With the appropriate permits from city hall in hand allowing her to have up to six small dogs at her home, she prepared the place for her new doggie clients.

Law had planned on them hanging out in a newly converted

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|-------------------------|-------|------|---------|-------------|
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| 1410 N Oak St           | 3/2   | 1228 | 871     | \$285,000   |
| 3299 State Highway 128  | 1/1   | 1266 | 1.5 ac  | \$495,000   |
| 1907 W Myrtle St        | 3/2   | 1135 | 7405    | \$500,000   |
| 1203 Willow St          | 3/2.5 | 1681 | 5663    | \$599,777   |
| 1769 Emerald Dr         | 4/2   | 2108 | 9583    | \$602,500   |
| 1716 Maggie Ave         | 3/2.5 | 1841 | 8276    | \$609,000   |
| 1510 Filmore St         | 4/2   | 1940 | 8276    | \$630,000   |
| 1605 Foothill Blvd      | 3/2.5 | 2156 | 1.21 ac | \$705,000   |
| 1739 Emerald Dr         | 3/2   | 2057 | 8926    | \$774,000   |
| 224 High St             | 3/3.5 | 2972 | 20473   | \$785,000   |
| 150 Petrified Forest Rd | 3/2   | 2177 | 2.87 ac | \$945,000   |
| 3252 Highway 128        | 3/4.5 | 2452 | 5.46 ac | \$2,400,000 |

| MOBLE HOMES (SENIOR 55+) |       |      |            |            |
|--------------------------|-------|------|------------|------------|
| ADDRESS                  | BR/BA | SQFT | SPACE RENT | SALE PRICE |
| 2412 Foothill #21        | 2/2   | 1120 | 575/mo.    | \$90,000   |
| 2412 Foothill #29        | 2/2   | 1158 | 564/mo.    | \$120,000  |

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FOR FREE HOME EVALUATION

# *It's really a dog's world at* Calistoga Doggie Day Care

room where she could keep an eye on them as she worked from her adjacent office. Plenty of dog beds, toys and water bowls are scattered throughout the house and backyard. There was enough room to roam around inside with access to outdoors too.

"That theory never materialized. Walking around the house I felt like the Piped Piper. I've got these little dogs following me all over the house; they just wanted to be with me!" she laughed.

Law learned some pointers about doggy socializing from her four legged friends. Socializing in their world meant hanging out in the living room on the furniture, or her lap, with trips to the kitchen or bedroom whenever anyone was heading in that direction.

Playtime in the fenced-in lawn area was always an option, too. Law has been a dog lover all her life and wants the owners to know their pets will be well cared for and loved in her home.

As her first day care clients showed up regularly for playtime with Brooke, the question inevitably was asked by the owners

about overnight boarding. Would Margaret be open for taking the occasional pooch over a holiday weekend? It seemed a logical transition.

So Law tested her boarding facility with a chosen few. Armed with an extensive questionnaire, the owner fills out paperwork about their pet's history, medical record and any special requirements it may have.

Law wants the pet to have a positive experience at her facility and that entails knowing a little background. Her kennel-free environment offers the over night guests all the comforts of home, and peace of mind for any dog owner. She will even go to great lengths to accommodate the pets' sleeping preferences.

Although the fenced backyard offers plenty of room for a game of fetch, Margaret sometimes takes the pack on a neighborhood walk, with a fistful of leashes in hand.

Yelp has been a useful resource for her new business, "It leads them to my web site which offers much more information;

that's how I get the out-of-towners," she said. "Just this past weekend a couple from San Francisco was getting married here in the valley and boarded their dog overnight with me," she recalled. She took the dog to the wedding the following day where she waited in the wings and chattered with the event planner until it was

time for Finn the Wheaton Terrier to be part of the wedding pictures.

Rachel Shamash, Finn's owner was delighted with the service and happy to report in part about her Calistoga Doggie Day Care experience:

"Margaret was extremely responsive and accommodating to our Wheaton Terrier, Finn, and

made us feel at ease communicating all of our special requests. Margaret is professional, friendly and detail oriented, and kept us updated with how Finn was doing by texting photos and messages. She has a great fenced off yard that made us feel confident that Finn would be happy and comfortable."

Law shows her joy for the job and enthusiasm for photography by snapping photos of her charges during the day. With permission from the owners, she is happy to forward these doggie moments to them.

Although her business is new, add-on services are evolving. She caters only to small breeds up to 25 lbs. Her hours of operation and many other facts can be found at the website. It is clear your four-legged family member will be in dog heaven at Calistoga Doggie Day Care.

For more information visit [www.calistogadoggiedaycare.com](http://www.calistogadoggiedaycare.com) or call Margaret Law at 707 548-7232 - 1143 Mitzi Dr., Calistoga, Ca 94515



*Calistoga Doggie Day Care specializes in canine day care of dogs up to 25 lbs. The back of the couch is a favorite hangout, and there is a fenced backyard for outdoor recreation.*

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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

(707) 942.3900 or [tour@catoga.com](mailto:tour@catoga.com)

### CA'TOGA TOUR

1206 Cedar Street, Calistoga, CA 94515  
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## CALISTOGA FARMERS MARKET

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# SEASONS in the Vineyard

**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.

**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.

## 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.



Yount

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

Beaulieu Vineyards (BV), Louis M. Martini built his winery and the Mondavi family purchased Charles Krug Winery. Andre Tchelischeff, 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*



### SHARPSTEEN MUSEUM



#### Dolls & Their Stories

from the mid-1800s through 1950s.

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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 door-stops, 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.

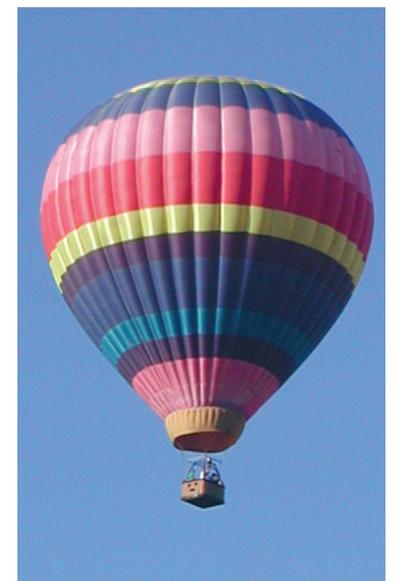
Public bathrooms on site, pets on leashes okay and alcoholic beverages are allowed in the park as well. BBQ and picnic tables available. The year-round Napa River flows next to the park. It's a nice place to cool off in summer, but do not let children play in water without adult supervision.

## 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](http://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.

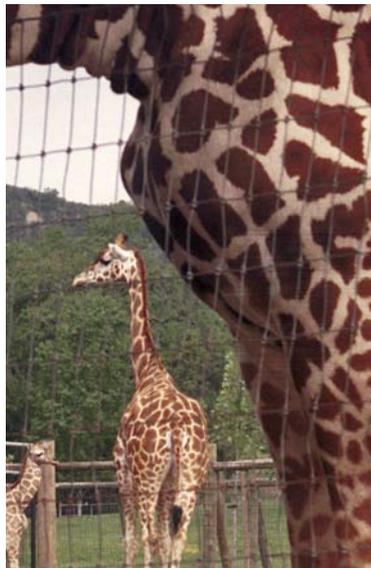
Want more? How about a unique wine-tasting room featuring the region's best award-winning wines, and a gift shop with great wine accessories, beautiful jewelry, clothing, glassware and its own broad selection of California wines.

Twin Pine Casino & Hotel is open 24/7. For more information call (800) 564-4872 or go to [TwinPine.com](http://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](http://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 942-2846 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](http://www.calistogaartcenter.org) for more information and class schedules.

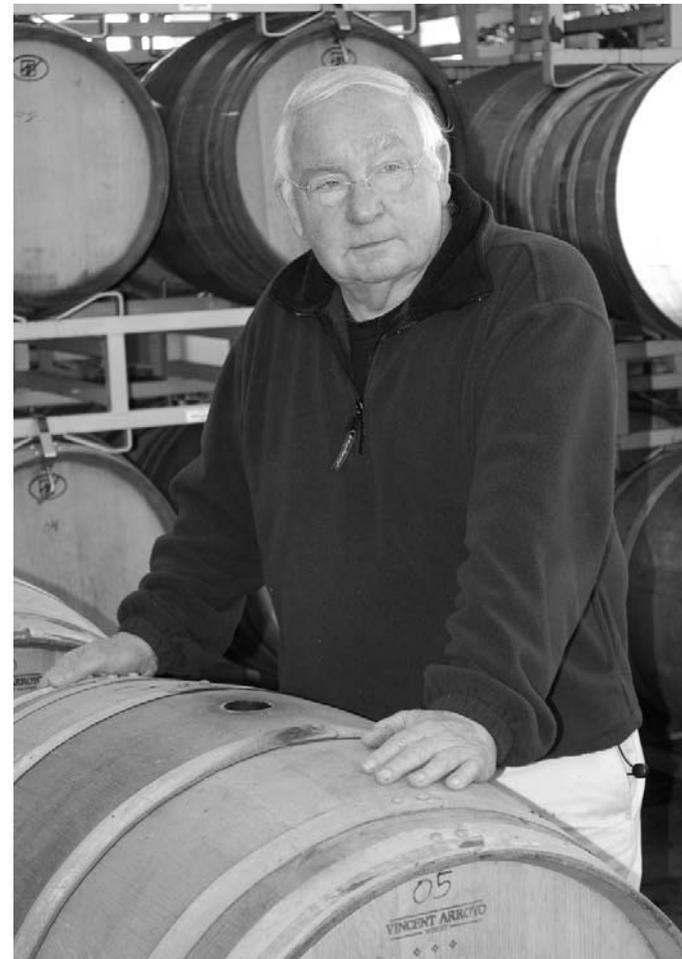


PHOTO BY CHICK HARRITY

*"Take what you have and do the best you can with it."*

— VINCENT ARROYO

Vincent Arroyo's winemaking style is the embodiment of his philosophy about his land. "Take what you have, and do the best you can with it." Each wine at the winery is hand-crafted, starting from before the grapes are harvested.

The wines produced at the Vincent Arroyo

Winery have put a star on many Napa Valley maps as a place that shouldn't be missed. His signature wine, still Petite Sirah, has become so popular that it often sells out before it is bottled every year.

Once you have tasted the wines, you'll know why. And once you've visited the winery, you'll know why no one leaves without a smile on their face.

Come see us today. Just call for a tasting appointment, we're waiting to say hello and pour you a glass.



**VINCENT ARROYO WINERY**  
2361 GREENWOOD AVENUE  
CALISTOGA • 942-6995



FILE PHOTO BY JEANNE MARIONI

Musicians play old-time music at Bale Grist Mill's Old Mill Days. The event happens again on Oct. 4-5.



FILE PHOTO BY JEANNE MARIONI

Abigail Eaton learns the art of rope making from docent Wayne Sanders.



FILE PHOTO BY ANDREA FREDIANI

A blacksmith will demonstrate his trade at Old Mill Days.

## Old Bale Mill Days – Oct. 4-5

# Weekend introduces past when life was not so simple

By Pat Hampton

MUD CITY WEEKENDER

Take away the kids' smart-phone, the Wii, and the iPad, soccer games, television and what do you have?

Enough time in a pioneer's day to do chores like threshing wheat for bread, making rope to tie up livestock and spinning wool for a pair of socks.

Not to mention quilting a coverlet for cold nights when the temperatures drop in the cabin and there's no thermostat to switch on more heat.

It's time for the valley's annual pioneer harvest and family event "Old Bale Mill Days" on Oct. 4-5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days at the historic mill three miles south of here on Hwy 29.

The grist mill, built in 1846 by Dr. Edward T. Bale just three miles south of Calistoga, was the social center of the nineteenth century when families would arrive with their bags of grains ready to be milled by the great stone wheels turned by the water-powered 36-foot tall wooden wheel.

Over the two-day event, visi-

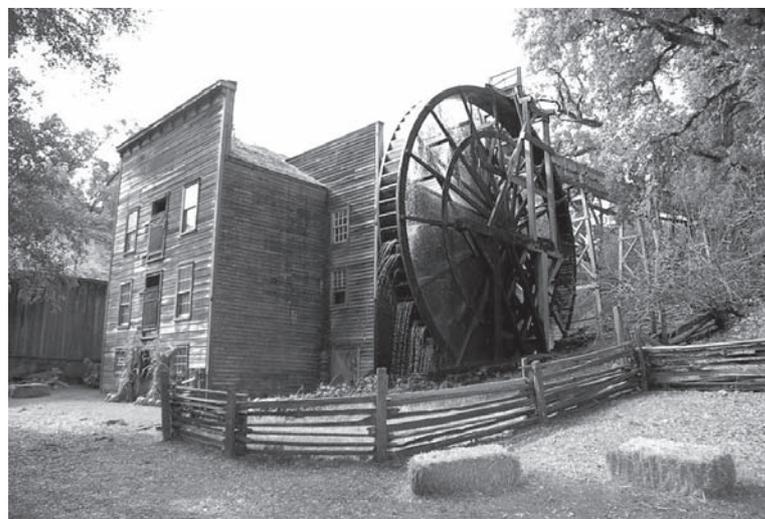


PHOTO BY JEANNE MARIONI

The Bale Mill, built in 1846, is a fully restored working grist mill on Highway 29 just three miles south of Calistoga.

tors will be able to learn a few of the skills pioneers needed to practice to stay self-sufficient.

Dressed in period costumes, the re-enactors will include a flint knapper, knot tying demonstrations, a gunsmith with his collection of antique guns, a surveyor with his antique surveying tools, a hand built pioneer wagon, 1850s/1860s hair braiding and a working blacksmith. Old time music by live musicians will be heard throughout the day.

Kids and parents can dress up in period costumes or watch the miller grind wheat and corn.

Admission is \$5, pioneers under the age of six are free.

Visitors can also practice writing in calligraphy, which is the writing taught in schools and commonly used in the 19th century.

If you are staying as a guest in town, call the Calistoga Mudrunner Shuttle at 963-4229 for a ride to the mill.

**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

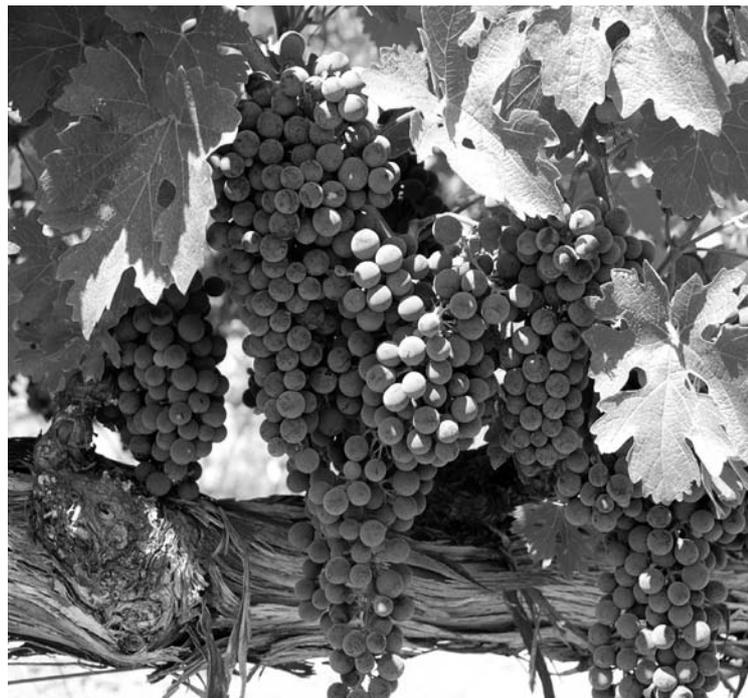
Napa Valley's rare diversity of microclimates is ideal for growing fine wine grapes.

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](http://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** (Goliath)

**This momma holds 2 cases of wine** (Solomon)

**This giant holds 20 bottles of wine** (Nebuchadnezzar)

**This big baby holds 16 bottles of wine** (Balthazar)

**This bottle holds a standard case** (Salamazur)

**This size holds 8 750-ml bottles** (Methuselah)

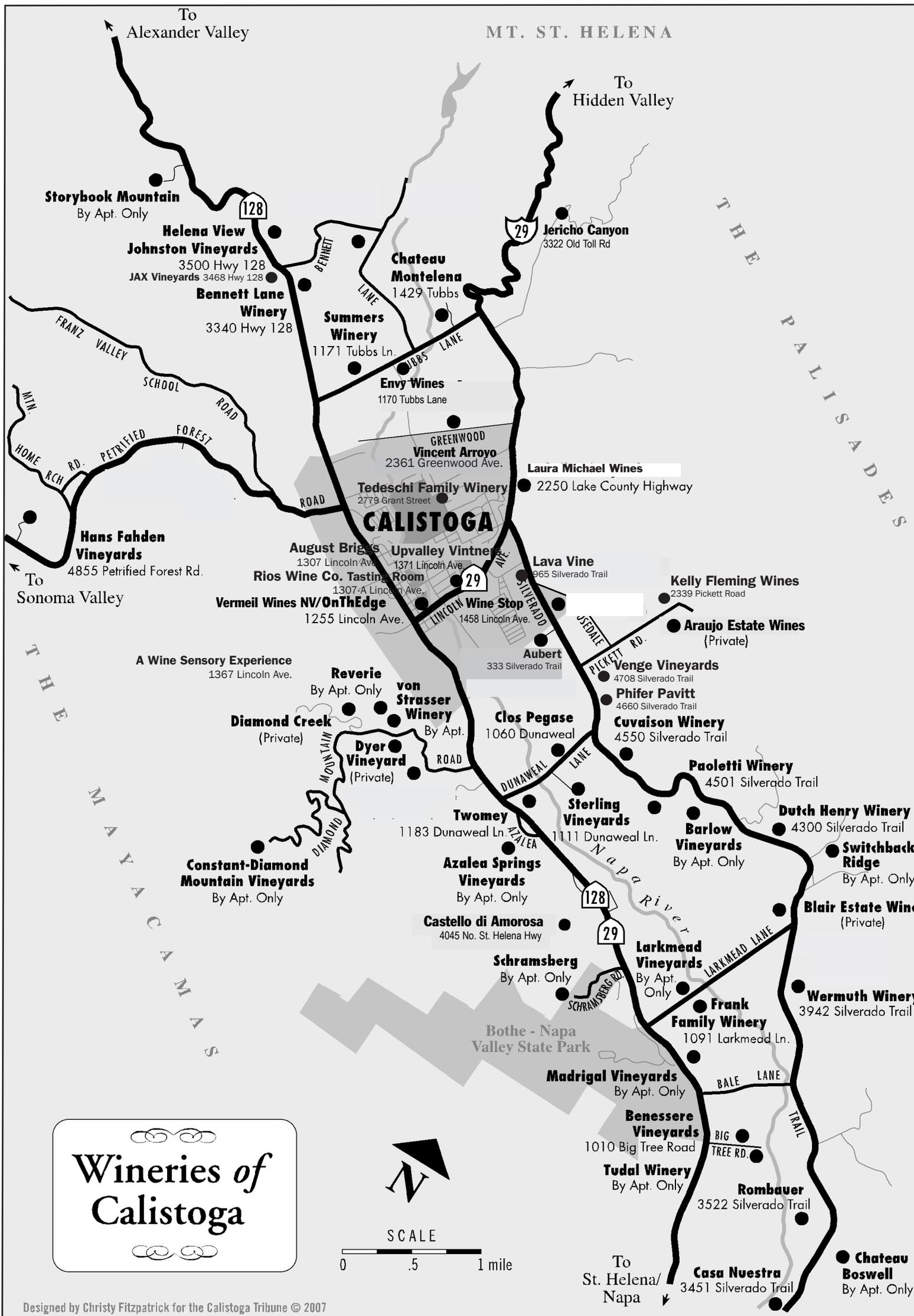
**Holds 4 750-ml bottles** (Jeroboam)

**Holds 2 bottles of wine** (Magnum)

**Bottle, holds 750 ml of wine**

**Holds half a bottle** (Half Bottle)

**Holds 1/4 a bottle** (Piccolo/Spill/Pony)



**Araujo Estate Wines**  
Not open to the public.  
[www.araujoestate.com](http://www.araujoestate.com)

**Arroyo Winery**  
942-6995 • 2361 Greenwood Ave.  
Mon. – Sun. 10-4:30. 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 Sun-Thurs, 11-5; Fri & Sat 11-7  
Tues by aapt only. Call ahead.

**Azalea Springs Vineyards**  
963-1999 • 4301 Azalea Springs  
Not open to the public.

**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.

**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](http://www.carversutro.com)

**Casa Nuestra Winery**  
963-5783 • 3451 Silverado Trail  
Daily 10-5. Family winery specializing in rare varietals and unique blends. By aapt.

**Castello di Amorosa**  
967-6272 • 4045 St. Helena Hwy  
Daily 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entrance fee inc. tasting, \$20/\$30 M-Thurs; Children 5-20, ent. fee \$10. Castle tours are \$35 per person. Upgrades available.

**Chateau Montelena**  
942-5105 • 1429 Tubbs Lane  
Daily 9:30-4. Tasting Fee: \$25.  
Details at [www.montelena.com](http://www.montelena.com).

**Clos Pegase Winery**  
942-4981 • 1060 Dunaweal Lane  
Daily 10:30-5. 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.

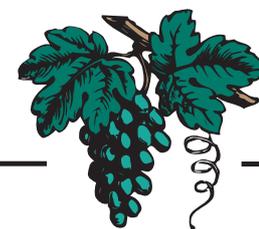
**Cuvaison Estate Wines**  
942-2468 • 4550 Silverado Trail  
Sun - Thurs, 11-4; Fri & Sat 10-5. Cave tour & tasting, \$35. Tours 11 am & 2 pm

**Diamond Creek**  
Not open to the public.  
[www.diamondcreekvineyards.com](http://www.diamondcreekvineyards.com)

**Dutch Henry Winery**  
942-5771 • 4310 Silverado Trail  
Daily 10-4:30. Tasting Fee: \$25.  
Waived with purchase of bottle.

**Dyer Vineyard**  
Not open to the public.  
[www.dyerwine.com](http://www.dyerwine.com)

# CALISTOGA Wineries



**DYN 2880**  
Not open to the public.  
[www.dyn2880.com](http://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.

**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  
Fri - Sun. 11-5 Open by appointment. \$15 tasting fee. Cabernet, malbec & sangiovese.

**Phifer Pavitt**  
942-4787 • 4660 Silverado Trail  
Tastings by appointment only. \$40 tasting fee waived w/purchase of 3 bottles..

**Rancho de las Flores Cellars**  
942-5924 • 3942 Silverado Trail  
Open for tasting 11-4, near daily. \$3 tasting fee. Cabernet and Blanco from colombarid grapes.

**Reverie**  
685-2835 • 1224 Lincoln Ave.  
By appointment only. Small, ultra-premium cabernet sauvignon winery.

**Romeo Vineyards & Cellars**  
942-6800 • 1520 Diamond Mtn Road  
Patio & tasting room open daily. Sun-Mon 12-6; Wed-Sat. 11-9.

**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](http://www.shypoke.com)

**Sterling Vineyards**  
942-3344 • 1111 Dunawear Lane  
Daily 10-4:30. Self-paced tours all day. Tasting and tour fee \$28. Take the tram to the top of the hill for breathtaking views.

**Storybook Mountain**  
942-5310 • 3835 Hwy 128  
Tasting and tours by appt. only, free with purchase. Zinfandel specialist since 1976.

**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](mailto:sales@summerswinery.com)

**Switchback Ridge**  
Not open to the public.  
[www.switchbackridge.com](http://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.  
Small family winery produces handcrafted wines. Call or e-mail for VIP tasting.

**Tom Eddy**  
942-4267 • PO Box 1096  
By appt. only. [www.tomedywines.com](http://www.tomedywines.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, sauvignon blanc and pinot noir wines.

**Upvalley Vintners**  
942-1004 • 1371 Lincoln Ave.  
Open 7 days a week, 11-5. Kenefick, 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 Vermeil's tasting room is open daily.

**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](http://www.wallisestate.com)

**Work Vineyard**  
942-0251 • [www.workvineyard.com](http://www.workvineyard.com)  
By appointment, call or e-mail.

**Zahtila Vineyards**  
Laura Michael Wines  
942-9251 • 2259 Lake County Hwy  
Daily 10-5. Producing premier vintages of zinfandel and cabernet sauvignon.

**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 zinfandel, chardonnay, and sauvignon blanc.

**Kelly Fleming Wines**  
942-6849 • 2339 Pickett Rd  
Family-run winery producing Estate cabernet and sauvignon blanc. By appt only.

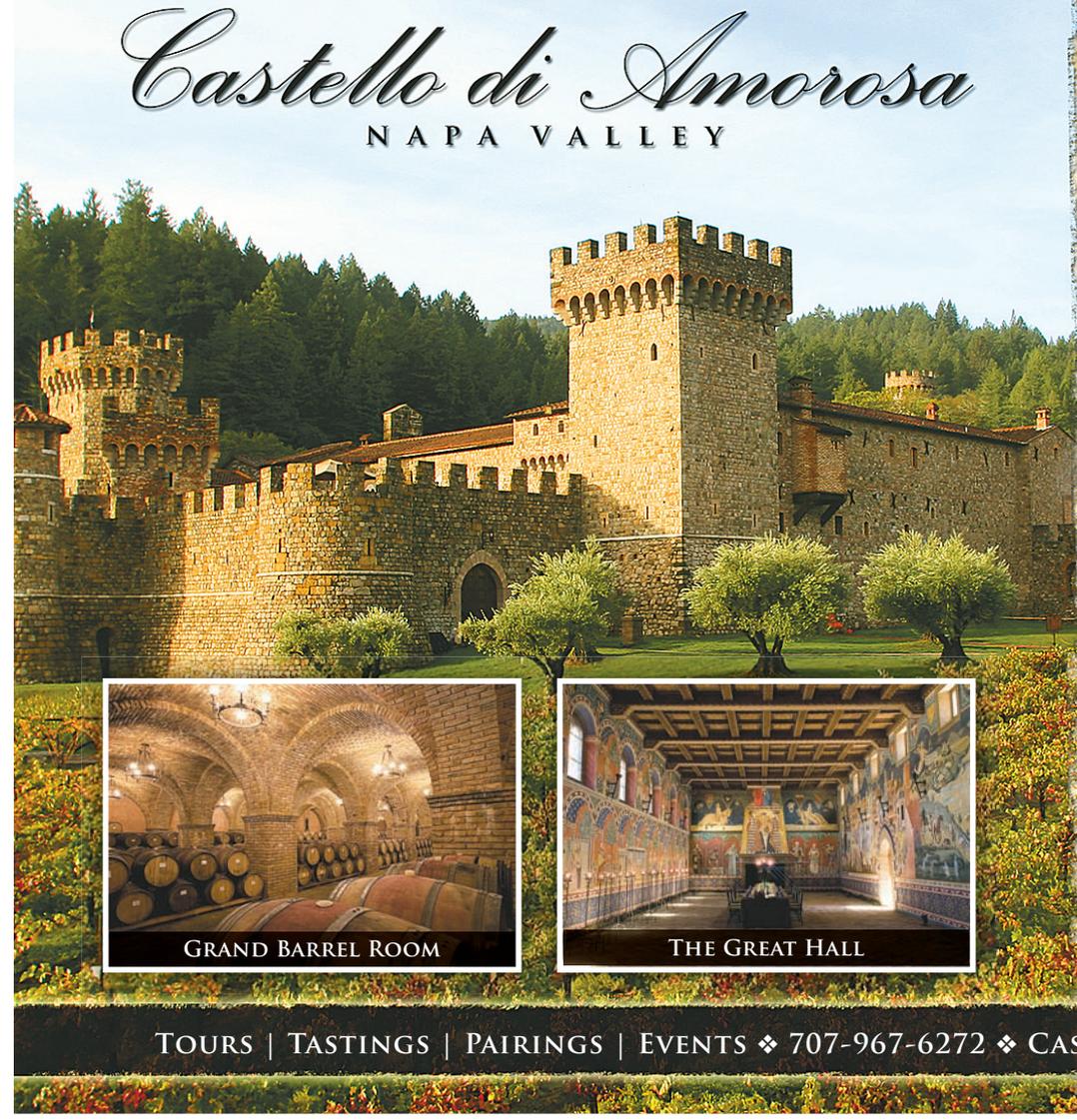
**Kenefick Ranch Vineyard**  
942-6175 • 2200 Pickett Rd  
Not open to the public.

**Knighton Family Vineyards**  
Not open to the public.  
Makes cabernet sauvignon exclusively.

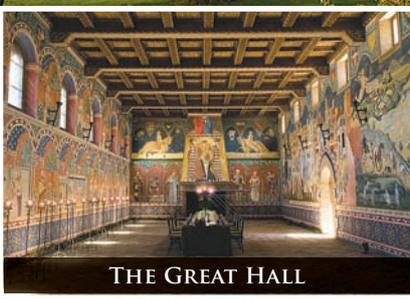
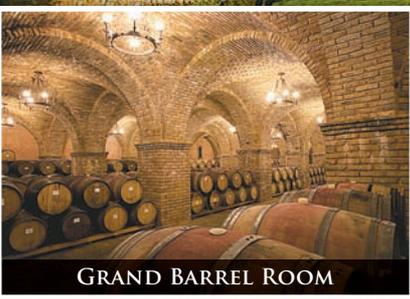
**Knights Bridge Winery**  
Not open to the public.  
[www.knightsbridgewinery.com](http://www.knightsbridgewinery.com)

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

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



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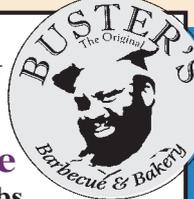
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