



Mud City Weekender

ALL THINGS CALISTOGA

APRIL 2014

LEGENDARY NAPA VALLEY



EXPLORE THE COLLECTION

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They will listen
to you Pisces* **6**

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home to famous
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*6th annual
Wildflower
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*Special tastings
this month!*



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Calistoga – The West’s Original Hot Springs Resort Town

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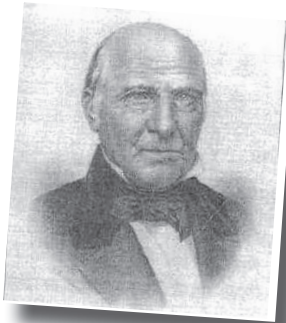
Some of the valley’s best wines are made right here – check it out!



5



8



15



22

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

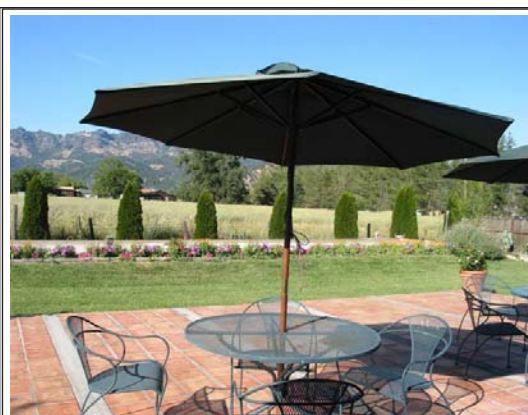
a special place in our hearts as well as yours.

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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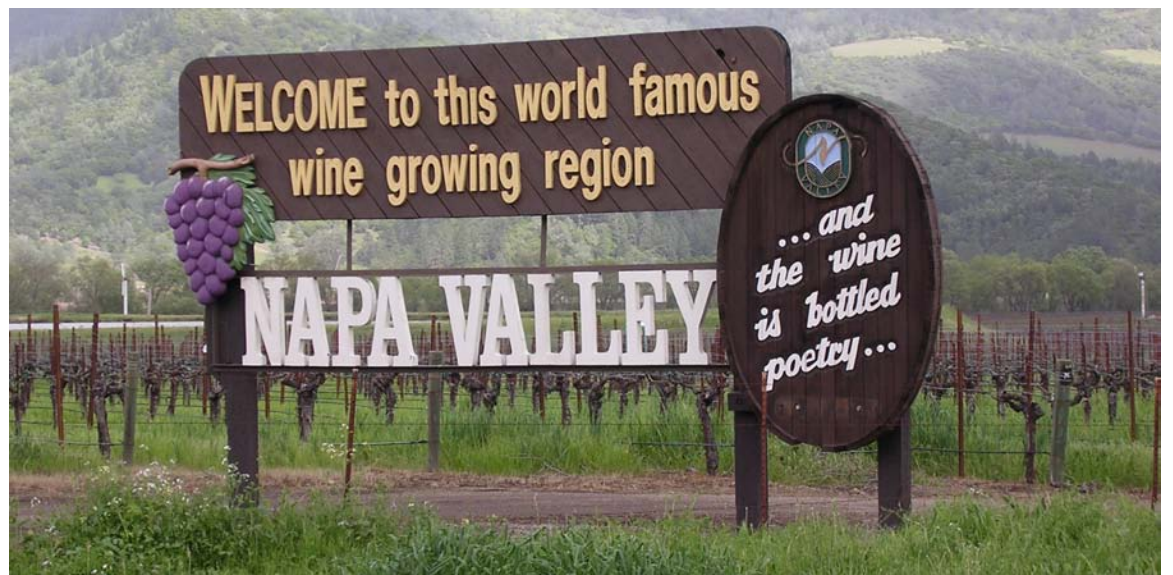
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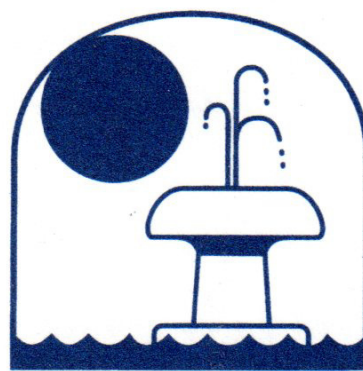
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Brighten up your month with Arts in April

The second annual Napa Valley Arts in April™ celebration features a month-long celebration of art, food and wine spanning one of the most breathtaking months in wine country.

Think of this year's Arts in April programming as your own personalized month-long art and wine crawl, with interactive art programs, curator led tours, special exhibitions and inspired tastings all part of the fun.

You can start in Napa, if you must, but you'll find the easy-going relaxed wonderland of Calistoga is also filled with great art and artisans.

Take a stroll on Lincoln Avenue after the Farmer's Market and see local artist Paul Youngman painting at the Lee Youngman Gallery 2, 1320 Lincoln Avenue.

Paul is working on the "Villages and Vineyards" show scheduled at the gallery for April 26 from 2-5 p.m. Peer through the window, or better yet, go on in and say 'hello.' Watch the creative process at work; interesting and lots of fun. The Lee Youngman Galleries are located at 1316 and 1320 Lincoln Avenue, next to the bike shop.

During the week of April 21 the Calistoga Spa Hot Springs is presenting works of photographic art from members of the Calistoga Camera Club. The lobby of the Calistoga Spa Hot Springs will be converted into an art gallery to showcase the work of these talented artists. Drop in for a look at the photographic work an impressive line-up of local shooters with world-wide reputations.

The Calistoga Art Center is sponsoring an Art Miniatures exhibit and fundraiser on Saturday, April 26 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the center's space in the Cropp Building at the fairgrounds, 1435 N. Oak Street.

"Art Miniatures" is a diverse exhibition of original artwork do-



COURTESY PHOTO

"Invitation to Spring" by Paul Youngman is part of the gallery's "Villages and Vineyards" show set for Saturday, April 26, 2-5 p.m., as part of a Calistoga celebration of the arts.

nated by artists affiliated with the Calistoga Art Center. The show is free and will include paintings, photography, prints, and sculpture. Raffle tickets will be offered for a chance to win donated artwork by renowned local artists, such as Paul Youngman and Carlo Marchiori and others.

The Art Center Art Market, a monthly sale for local artists, takes place on April 12 from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., and is a free event.

Solbar, the Michelin star restaurant at Solage Calistoga, under the direction of executive chef Brandon Sharp and the Calistoga Winegrowers, is hosting a food and wine event on Friday, April 11 from 6-9 p.m. Tickets are \$75

for this outdoor wine-lover's pilgrimage featuring live music and samplings from 30 of Calistoga's premiere wineries paired with tastings from the Solbar kitchen. Go to www.calistoga-foodandwine.com for info and tickets.

All Seasons Bistro at the corner of Washington and Lincoln is opening a new show by Rebecca Dant entitled "Portraits of Nature". Open during regular restaurant hours.

Several wineries are also hosting artists at their venues, and meet the artist receptions are planned as well. See list of participating galleries and wineries at right.

Calistoga galleries offer art, food & wine last weekend in April

Lee Youngman Gallery

April 26, 2 - 5 pm

Lee Youngman Galleries invites you to meet artists Paul Youngman and Kristine Pallas for a showing of their works. "Eucalyptus Rhythm" Oil by Kristine Pallas will be on display as well as "Invitation to Spring" Oil by Paul Youngman. Palisades Winery will be pouring. Gary Lawson, jazz guitarist will perform.

The Carmel Gallery

April 26, 2 - 5 pm

Olof and Elizabeth Carmel invite you to meet them personally taste some wine and view their works of fine art photography. The Carmels specialize in printing their landscape photographs on cotton papers and canvas in any size. Their work focuses on breathtaking scenery from throughout the world, with particular emphasis on wine country. Jazz piano stylings by David Neft.

Ca'toga Gallery

April 26, 2 - 5 pm

Ca'toga Art Gallery features the exclusive works of Carlo Marchiori, world-renowned artist who offers a variety of creations, including ceiling murals, porcelain, ceramics, paintings, sculpture, furniture, watercolor, and more. Marchiori favors subjects of figures and animals caught in fluid spontaneity and his Venetian background comes through with zany Commedia dell'Arte themes. Summers Estate wines will be poured.

The Gallery at Indian Springs

April 26, 2 - 5 pm

The Gallery at Indian Springs will feature a special display of sculptures created by using volcanic mineral crystals that have formed in pipes leading the hot springs geyser water to the mineral pools at the historic resort. The Gallery features contemporary art, glass and photography by gallery artists, including John Lewis, Guy Pederson, John Merchant, and a special photo exhibition by Daniel Merchant, including stunning images from his travels in Africa.

Sterling Vineyards

All Month

Jim Lively is an attorney who left the practice of law to pursue his passion full-time as a contemporary figurative and abstract artist. His works have been recognized in numerous juried competitions and publications.

Artist and Interior Designer, Vaso Peritos, has re-invented the art of fine wine with her bold, vibrant and impressionistic mixed media paintings. Vaso, as she prefers to be called, creates a new contemporary look with art that transcends labels and instead asks the individual connoisseur to partake in the still life of a random set of bottles and their filled wine glass.

After losing someone she loved, artist Candy Chang painted the side of an abandoned house in her neighborhood in New Orleans with chalkboard paint and stenciled the sentence, "Before I die I want to ____." Within a day of the wall's completion, it was covered in colorful chalk dreams as neighbors stopped and reflected on their lives. Since then, more than 450 Before I Die walls have been created in over 65 countries

and 30 languages by passionate people all over the world.

American Indian Trading Co.

April 26, 3 - 7 pm

Catered Artist's Reception

April 27, 11 a.m. - 1 pm

Artist's Demonstration

Kenneth T. White II, was born into a traditional Dine'h (Navajo) family and attended the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe. He has created his own unique art form with original matte art and sculpture. His art includes traditional images of Navajo stories and spirituality. Meet the artist on Saturday and watch a demonstration of his techniques on Sunday.

Jericho Canyon Vineyards

April 27, 4 - 6 pm

Join Jericho Canyon proprietors and artist Ira Yeager for an intimate reception on April 27 celebrating Yeager's Indian portraits series. Rich in California history, the hills of Jericho Canyon were once Wappo hunting grounds. Arrowheads still surface after the winter rains. \$20/person suggested donation with 100% of the donation benefiting Napa Valley Hospice & Adult Day Services. Space is limited please RSVP to wine@jerichocanyonvineyard.com or call 707.331.9076.

Blue Horse Studios

at Envy Wines

April 25-27

Envy Wines invites you to share a glass of wine and explore Blue Horse Studios; the Creative World of Artist-in-Residence, Sherri Carter on April 25-27. Enjoy her equestrian paintings, limited edition prints, and her book "Daily Decadence: The Art of Sensual Living." Sherri will be pouring her boutique wine brand Ruby Kurant and Envy will also offer special wines.

Tedeschi Family Winery

April 26, 2-4 pm

This Calistoga family winery will be pouring their wines. Guitarist Gregory Leupp will entertain from 2-4 pm.

Up Valley Vintners

April 25, 6 - 8 pm Reception

Art Displayed All April

Arminée Chahbazian is a professional, contemporary artist working near Calistoga. Featured works include large-scale oil paintings using bird imagery to metaphorically reference the process of navigation, along with abstract mixed media works on paper based on observed patterns of natural phenomena.

Bennett Lane Winery

All April

Venture to the top of Napa Valley to celebrate Arts in April. Bennett Lane Winery is home to 36 90+ Point wines in just a few short years. During Arts in April, the work of Travis Elder will be featured with Celestial Roots: Revealing the Sacred. Arts in April guests will receive 10% off their wine purchases.

Castello di Amorosa

See ART on page 8

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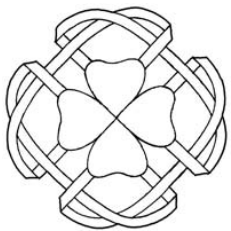


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Celtic Cards

by M. Antoine *APRIL 2014*



Aries

March 21-April 19

Those feelings of being overwhelmed have returned to plague you. Family issues are paramount at this time, and you feel as though there is no end in sight. Things will change, but this month requires that you lay low and focused. Work on your finances and cut out the waste.

Taurus

April 20-May 20

A few minor health issues could plague you this month, but nothing serious. You will see a positive change in your emotional life as the month progresses. A new appreciation of close friends will be a major factor in the direction you choose to steer your personal life journey.

Gemini

May 21-June 20

Work will be a burden this month, but you will see an easing of the pressure after the 15th. You will also see the end to a lot of little annoyances that have plagued you for a while. Your sense of humor and your ability to be organized will pay off greatly. Do not take the work stress home with you if you can help it.

Cancer

June 21-July 22

Someone has been watching you closely this past while. A new friendship will form as another friend leaves your circle. A new television may be on your list of purchases, as the one you have may be ready to go on the blink. You are having vivid dreams, and you need to write them down.

Leo

July 23-August 22

You have been really annoyed by the way someone has been treating you. It is time to set limits as to what you will put up with or not put up with. Enough is enough, and you are about to let that person have it. You will feel so much better when the air clears.

Virgo

August 23-September 22

It is time to pull back from being so available all the time. You have gone from being appreciated to being used, and this will turn to resentment on your part. Don't be the first to always volunteer for the front line. Just say NO, and let those around you learn to pick up the slack.

Libra

September 23-October 22

A long lost friend may return this month and seek to be a part of your life again. Take things at an easy pace and remember why the friendship ended in the first place. You cannot go back, but you CAN start again if you choose to. The key words are "take it slowly"

Scorpio

October 23-November 21

Don't be pushy when it comes to romance. The last thing you want to do is scare someone away. Let your feelings evolve in their own time, and know that the object of your desire will be around as long as you want them to be. They are just as nervous as you are.

Sagittarius

November 22-December 21

This is a time for looking at where you came from and where you are going. You are not satisfied with your progress, and you want to start on a new journey. Take that first step and keep going as long as you can. You are about to be surprised and pleased with what you find.

Capricorn

December 22-January 19

This month will present a great opportunity for you to teach someone a new trade or hobby. It will also surprise you when you learn something amazing from that person. Knowledge shared is a great gift to the giver and receiver. Be open and receptive to change.

Aquarius

January 20-February 18

There are a lot of changes around you right now, and you are feeling overwhelmed. It is OK to ask that things move at a slower pace so that you can keep up. If you do not say anything then nothing will happen. Be an advocate for yourself and gently set some limits.

Pisces

February 19-March 20

They will listen and they will understand. Not saying anything will intensify the situation and make it more unbearable. Keeping it to yourself will eat away at you and just exacerbate the problem. Go ahead and say what needs to be said. It will be OK, and you will survive. .



Get your FREE Chart Wheel at kamalotastrology.com

At Bothe Napa Valley State Park

Expanding camping options in a yurt

By Shellie Sakai

MUD CITY WEEKENDER

Bothe Napa Valley State Park just four miles south of Calistoga is a wonderful anomaly. It is owned by the State but administered by Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District (NCRPOSD). Bothe is a park rich in history, wildlife and peace.

Two years ago when the State was still in charge they decided to remove three camping spaces from the 50 camping space sites. It was something of a gamble, in that they wanted to install Yurts which were unusual, while removing three camp sites that were usual.

Webster's Dictionary defines a Yurt as: a circular domed tent of skins or felt stretched over a collapsible lattice framework and used by pastoral peoples of inner Asia. According to Encyclopedia Britannica, yurts were used by nomadic tribes in Central Asia as far back as 1876.

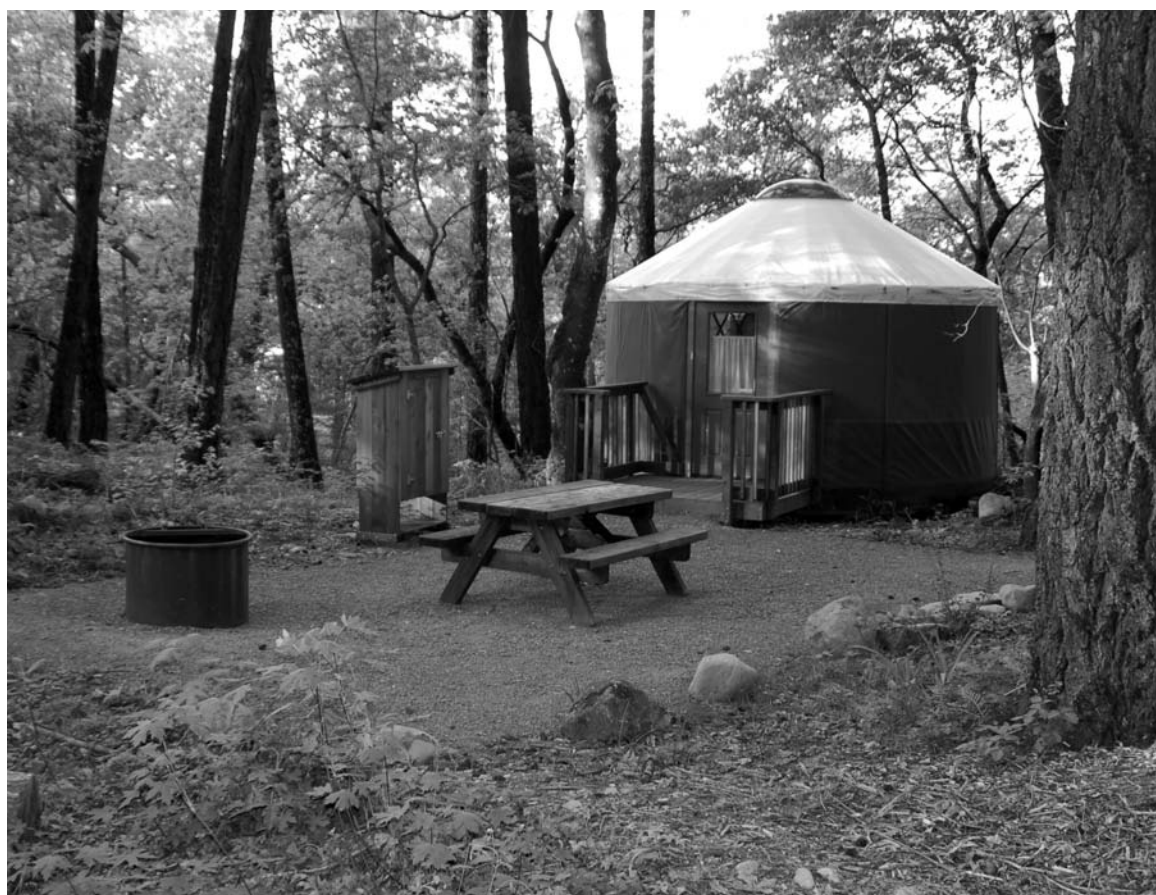
Seeing how successful the

first three 20-ft diameter yurts were, NCRPOSD asked Bothe if they wanted another seven yurts. These seven were sixteen feet in diameter. They had been used by Napa County for worker housing for a year and then put into storage. Bothe management agreed that putting up additional yurts would be financially beneficial to the park. And a small Yurt village was born.

There are three yurts in the main campground and seven yurts at the site where five of the original cabins still stand. In addition to having the yurts available for rent, renovations to the cabins will begin soon, which will provide more overnight stay opportunities to those who don't like to sleep outside on the ground. Two of the 20-ft foot yurts are ADA accessible while two of the 16-ft are also ADA accessible.

Entering a Yurt you notice one thing immediately – a yurt is surprisingly roomy. Sixteen feet

See *YURTS* page 14



COURTESY PHOTO

There are three yurts in the main campground at Bothe Napa Valley State Park and seven yurts at the site where five original cabins still stand.

Calistoga Farmers' Market



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After losing someone she loved, artist Candy Chang painted the side of an abandoned house in her neighborhood in New Orleans with chalkboard paint and stenciled the sentence, “Before I die I want to ____.” Within a day of the wall’s completion, it was covered in colorful chalk dreams as neighbors stopped and reflected on their lives. See Chang’s work at Sterling Vineyards



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ART

Continued from page 9

Featured works include large-scale oil paintings using bird imagery to metaphorically reference the process of navigation, along with abstract mixed media works on paper based on observed patterns of natural phenomena.

Bennett Lane Winery
All April

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the Sacred. Arts in April guests will receive 10% off their wine purchases.

Castello di Amorosa
April 25

Visit Castello di Amorosa on April 25 and meet Italian-born artist Fabio Sanzogni. View his revered masterpiece- the Italian-style frescoes of the Castello’s, Great Hall. Sanzogni will demonstrate his centuries-old technique from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Tour VILLA CA'TOGA
April 26 11 a.m.

The Palladian Villa, the residence of Carlo Marchiori, is a glimpse into the private world of an artist. A large Salone and six other

rooms are completely decorated in trompe l'oeil frescoes. The gardens and grounds offer surprises of pools, statues, fountains, Roman ruins and 18th century follies. The VILLA CA'TOGA TOUR will be available on Saturday, April 26th at 11 a.m.. Tel. 707.942.3900 or tour@catoga.com

Calistoga Art Center
April 26, 11 - 6 p.m.

“Art Miniatures” is a diverse exhibition of original artwork donated by artists affiliated with the Calistoga Art Center. The show is free and will include paintings, photography, prints, and sculpture. During the event everyone has the opportunity to win their favorite pieces and raise funds for the Calistoga Art Center.

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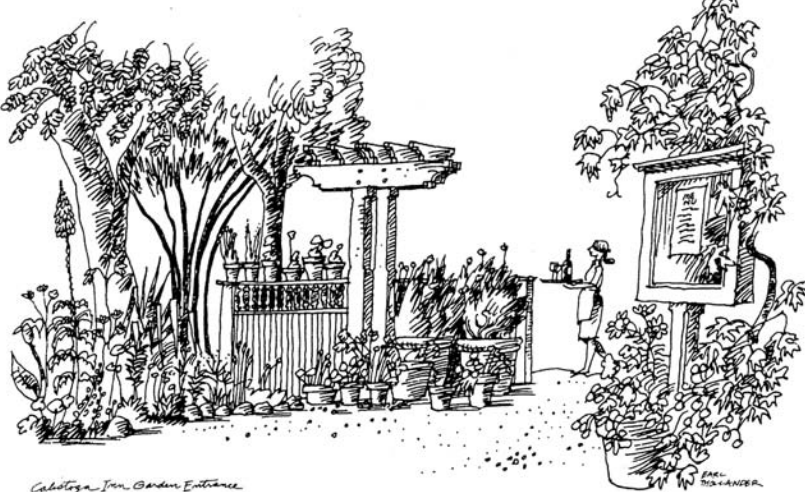
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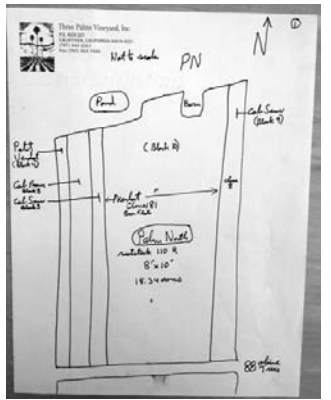


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Three Palms

home to legendary Calistoga vines



By Tony Poer

MUD CITY WEEKENDER

If you're a Calistogan speed-ling south on the Silverado Trail and late for an appointment in Napa, or even a tourist meandering north along the same stretch searching for a winery address in Yountville, it's hard to miss the Upton brothers' famous vineyard.

Look for the palm trees. There are three of them.

Planted by Sloan Upton and his younger brother, John, in 1967, Three Palms Vineyard is one of Napa Valley's essential wine estates.

The 75-acre property is nestled into a corner of the Trail near Dutch Henry Canyon, a few miles east of Calistoga. Its designation has graced the labels of only two wineries in its 46-year existence.

One of these, St. Helena's equally celebrated Duckhorn Vineyards, debuted as a wine label with their legendary 1978 Three Palms Merlot.

"We put our heart and soul into the '78 vintage," said Alex Ryan, Duckhorn's president and CEO.

"Vineyard-designated varietal Merlot in 1978? Most people would think you're crazy, but we believed in the wine, believed in the vineyard, and believed in the style of the softer Napa Valley red. And '78 was an awesome vintage. So we had a lot of things going for us."

Ryan could also sport the title of "Duckhorn historian," having worked there since he was a high schooler in the early 1980s. Aside from founders Margaret and Dan Duckhorn, he's probably the most qualified person to comment on the winery's successful run of 35 vintages.

Three Palms Vineyard, as Ryan described it during a conversation at the winery, is "intricately related to Duckhorn and Duckhorn's beginnings."



PHOTO BY TONY POER

Planted by Sloan Upton (above) and his younger brother, John, in 1967, Three Palms Vineyard is one of Napa Valley's essential wine estates.

But to really appreciate the history of Duckhorn, you have to understand what the Upton brothers went through to develop Three Palms into a world-class vineyard. And to understand Three Palms, you need to hear about rocks from Sloan Upton, plus maybe a few thoughts on the Stanford-Cal rivalry. The Napa Valley grape grower (and proud Stanford grad) has been at his game for close to 50 years.

Upton, 77, grew up in San Francisco but has lived in the Valley since 1971. He still goes to work every day at Three Palms Vineyard, Inc., headquartered in a 1940s barn on the property. His office is adorned with family photographs and those of other interesting people, alongside

snapshots of some of the cars and motorcycles Upton and his brother have raced over the years. A collection of World War Two memorabilia adds to the "gentleman's cave" aesthetic. Sitting behind the handsome, polished wood desk that his grandmother made for his father, an English surgeon during the war, Upton described the history of Three Palms' grape-growing operation.

"I happen to be president of this little corporation," he said, self-effacingly. "But we're not big on titles. We don't have ego problems like so many others do."

"That's my grandfather on my mother's side," he said, pointing behind him to the formal portrait of his maternal grandfather over



the desk. "I wish I had known him. He was one of the early pioneers in the San Joaquin [Valley]. I think that's where I get my love of being outside with my hands in the dirt."

"I'm always out in the field," he emphasized. "That's what I do best."

The Upton brothers and their parents purchased the rocky, unplanted property from neighboring dairy farmers in 1967. They were aided by an English cousin by marriage, the late Calistoga vintner Peter Newton.

"We bought the vineyard in '67 and started planting that year," he said. "We found this vineyard with enormous help from our first cousin by marriage, who was married to my cousin, Anne. [Peter] was very instrumental in acquiring it."

Upton pored over an aerial photograph of Three Palms on his

See 3 PALMS on page 10

3 PALMS

Continued from page 9

desk, altitude helping to show that the vineyard is divided into four large blocks. The photo recalls the layout of the Four Corners in the western U.S., with a grove of tall, mature olive trees that Upton planted years ago at the center where the blocks meet (a geography buff would probably protest this comparison, pointing out that “Colorado” is the shape of Idaho). As for the famous palm trees, they lie in what would be “northern Arizona,” in this case in the block appropriately called Palm South.

Commenting on the trees’ location and the layout of the other blocks, Palm North and Selby North and South, as they’re called, Upton described the early and very difficult days he and John spent transforming the

landscape.

“It was pretty rough in those days because of the stones. It still is, but we’ve worked around them. It’s like waves in the ocean: you don’t swim against them, you go with them. We’ve learned that over the years.”

“Selby is the rockier side, particularly on this side.” He indicated a stretch along the vineyard’s border adjacent to Selby Creek that was simply too rough to plant. “In days past, the creek has busted out of its banks and it’s come right through here” to deposit stones across the Selby blocks.

As younger men during travels with their parents to Europe, particularly to vineyards in France and Italy, the Upton brothers took note of how vines were planted in a variety of soils and terrains. The rockier ones inspired them, or at least didn’t scare them away.



Whether it died from frost or a Cal-Stanford rivalry prank, one of the three original palms was replaced in 1990. They can be seen just outside Calistoga off the Silverado Trail.

“We knew what was going on. Rocks didn’t seem to be too much of a problem in Europe. The vineyards were very high in quality, and we thought perhaps we might be able to do that.”

“We saw, John and I, what people were doing with rocks, and that made us interested. With Peter’s help, great help, we found this place.”

“Those things play into why the site is special,” said P.J. Alviso, who joined the conversation with Alex Ryan the CEO. Alviso is the director of estate viticulture at Duckhorn, a Cal Poly viticulture graduate who grew up in a grape-farming family in the rugged terrain of the Sierra Foothills. Only 28, he’s already worked eight harvests at Duckhorn and is extremely knowledgeable on the subjects of soil, vines, and rocks. He seems to have a special affinity for the Uptons’ property.

“There is some soil,” he explained, echoing Upton, “but it’s really, really light, with a lot of rock content through the entire vineyard.”

“That topsoil doesn’t hold much water. There’s no reason for roots to be there, really. They’ll go hang out where the water is.”

Alviso’s comments on Three Palms’ terrain go to the heart of what make the wines so unique and collectible. The vines have to dig deep to find sources of water in the rocky ground and are thus stressed. Above ground, the leaf canopy must be managed very carefully so that the stressed vines get enough energy via sunlight, but not too much. This would cause them to overproduce fruit and dilute what should

be extraordinarily concentrated flavors come harvest, a positive result of vine stress. Balancing the vines’ necessities above and below ground is one of the greatest challenges for both Upton and Alviso.

Upton concurred. “There’s no holding the water; it goes straight down. And we know that because I’ve dug down with a backhoe 18 feet, and I’ve seen the roots. So they go and explore.”

He’s a big fan of Alviso’s, noting that, among the many viticulturists he’s worked with at Duckhorn, “P.J. is by far the best, no question about it. He’s completely trustworthy, and he’s a very nice young man.”

“We work very closely. I used to work with his grandfather the first time I was kicked out of Stanford.”

The first time? “The first time,” he bragged. “There’ve been other times.”

If Alex Ryan is a great resource for information about the Duckhorn story and its overall place in California’s contemporary wine history, Kellie Duckhorn, the daughter and eldest child of Margaret and Dan Duckhorn, is probably the best person to ask how the Stanford-Cal rivalry played out one time at Three Palms in the early 80s.

“It was the giant Cal banner,” she recalled over the phone. “I believe it might even be the same banner that flies over Berkeley Memorial stadium. It was quite a coup to have even borrowed it in the first place.”

“I remember how we got that thing up. It was hilarious. I’m pretty sure it was my dad’s idea. We had keys to the property. We

put that banner up at night, and so they didn’t even know until the next day.”

“We took our flatbed truck that we used to haul fruit with a forklift loaded on the back of it, because we wanted the banner to be strung way up. It was [former Duckhorn winemaker] Tom Rinaldi. I know my dad was there, and Alex [Ryan], myself, and maybe our assistant winemaker at the time. You know the white picking bins? Well, in the old days they were wood. So I stood inside of one with the banner, and then Alex lifted it on the forklift up to its highest level. So I was about 70 feet above the ground by the time I was over the flatbed.”

The fearless, Berkeley-bound high schooler then strung the banner between two of the Stanford alumni-owned palms for all to see the following morning.

“And I’m sure Sloan mentioned this: we nailed the rope into the tree. And he says we killed the tree.”

Upton had a different take on what killed one of his iconic *Washingtonia robusta* palm trees: it was a combination of severe frost in 1990 and a pesky bird. Either way, the banner incident, which according to Kellie was unofficially sanctioned by the now-retired UC Berkeley chancellor who loaned it to them, took place during the height of the cold war between the two universities, around the same time that the Cal football team beat Stanford (and their band) in the 1982 Big Game with “The Play.”

A battle in this war was soon under way in St. Helena. John and Sloan showed up at Duckhorn the next day with a water cannon on their truck.

“They rolled into the winery and we got blasted,” Kellie laughed. “People were calling. They’d seen the banner and were dying. Everybody knew that Sloan was a big Stanford guy, so he’d already been receiving some phone calls razzing him. So, anyway, that’s the banner story.”

Pranks aside, the Uptons were very sad to see one of their historic palms die off in 1990. In addition to being the name of the vineyard, the three palm trees were the last indication that the property had been the site where their fellow San Franciscan Lillie Coit’s home stood over a century

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See 3 PALMS page 13

YURTS
Continued from page 7

but it really is a comfortable space. There is a double bed and two cots along with a fold down table and stools. The twenty foot diameter is also comfortable it comes with a table that seats six, a queen bed and four cots. The bed has a nice mattress and you provide your own bedding.

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During the day, the Park offers camping, picnicking, swimming, and hiking trails that go through stands of coastal redwoods as well as forests of Douglas-fir, tanoak, and madrone.

Daytime visitors can enjoy a leisurely stroll in Ritchey Canyon on the Redwood Trail to view the delicate ferns and listen to the water splashing

down the rocky creekbed. Bring your wine and cheese and picnic under the towering Douglas Firs.

The large picnic grounds are located in the day use area, and are even available for group events and getaways. A covered area for group use contains picnic tables, a sink and an electrical outlet with a horseshoe pit and wheelchair-accessible restroom nearby.

Whether you visit the back country on a several hour hike or take a mere stroll along the creekbed, you will enjoy a close-up look at all the natural beauty that the park has to offer. There are well over 10 miles of trail for your indulgence.

Next to the park's visitor center is the Native American Garden which displays some of the plants important to the first people of this area. Today, many of the same plants are used by the Wappo people. A guide for the garden is available by mail or in the visitor center to broaden one's understanding of the first people.

Near the day use/picnic area is the Pioneer Cemetery, resting-place of some of the original settlers of the Napa Valley. The cemetery is an interesting place to visit while on a day hike, and is currently under restoration to return it to its original, mid-1800's appearance.

Hike the History Trail over to the Bale Grist Mill, built in 1846. Tours and milling demonstrations show the historic process of milling. Open week-ends 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.. Freshly milled flours, cornmeal and polenta are available by donation. Separate fee.

Or, visit Robert Louis Stevenson, an undeveloped park 12 miles to the north on Hwy 29.

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Wildflower Festival



Pepperwood Preserve is hosting its sixth annual Wildflower Festival on Sunday, April 13. The 3,000 acre preserve is located at 2130 Pepperwood Preserve Road approximately midway between the towns of Santa Rosa and Calistoga off of Franz Valley Road and adjacent to Safari West.

Celebrate the beauty of Calistoga’s native wildflowers and the majesty of the Mayacamas Mountains at Pepperwood’s 6th annual Wildflower Festival on Sunday, April 13 from 9

a.m. - 4 p.m. The festival is free and families are welcome. This year’s Wildflower Festival will include an array of activities for the whole family including self-guided hikes, interpretive hikes led by naturalists and

wildflower experts, van tours of the preserve, children’s activities such as face painting and bird box building, environmental lectures each hour on a wide range of topics, an art exhibit featuring the work of local artist Catherine Daley, a raffle and silent auction, and much more!



Held each year in April, Pepperwood’s Wildflower Festival presents the best opportunity to experience everything the preserve has to offer. Visitors will also have the opportunity to learn about different community organizations working with Pepperwood to protect the North Bay’s rich natural heritage.

Refreshments will be available on-site for purchase. Last year’s festival drew hundreds of visitors – come join us for our biggest event of the year! Pepperwood is a leader in forging solutions to advance the health of Northern California’s land, water and wildlife. Scientists

use the 3,200 acres as a living laboratory to engage nature lovers, volunteers, students, and scientists in applied conservation. Pepperwood serves as a field site for cutting-edge research and conservation science, provides comprehensive environmental education for adults and youth, and hosts an innovative citizen science initiative.

The preserve is located at 2130 Pepperwood Preserve Road approximately midway between the towns of Santa Rosa and Calistoga off of Franz Valley Road and adjacent to Safari West. For directions or more information about Pepperwood and its programs, visit www.pepperwoodpreserve.org.



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3 Palms

Continued from page 10

ago. They were determined to replace the one that came down, but the brothers did so with characteristic good humor.

"We took it down in stages, and I called and called and finally found another palm tree of the same species over in Healdsburg. It was 40 feet. They had longer

ones, but 40 feet is max for driving on the highway. We got it over here, backed it down, and had what we called the 'Grand Erection' and got that sucker up in the air! We were in constant contact with a 'professor of palm trees,' if you will, down at UCLA or USC, one of those. We gave it phosphorous and everything we could do to make it fine. After a year, down went the [wire] guys. It's been here ever since."

In February of this year, Duckhorn Vineyards promoted its associate winemaker, Renée Ary, to the position of head winemaker. The 38 year-old New Jersey native is the fourth person to hold the title and had worked closely with two of her predecessors, Bill Nancarrow and Mark Beringer. Initially brought on to manage quality control programs for Duckhorn's various wine brands, Ary has a very sharp

palate and has ascended with enthusiasm to the position. She's especially attuned to the unique flavor characteristics of the Three Palms Merlot.

"They're a classic example of Merlot," she said while sniffing and tasting her way through a trio of vintages from the last nine years, which she and P.J. Alvino opened for this article (see sidebar). "They're red fruit-driven, they're supple, and they have a

lushness about them, a nice plum-spice character. That's something that we always look for in the Three Palms Vineyard. It's that kind of underlying, earthy, wet rock character that's really typical of the soil profile out there."

"There are definitely similarities to the early vintages. That underlying Three Palms

See 3 PALMS on page 20

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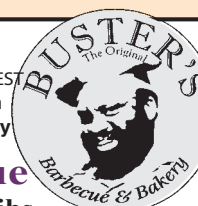
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SEASONS in the Vineyard

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.

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.

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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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.

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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.

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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...

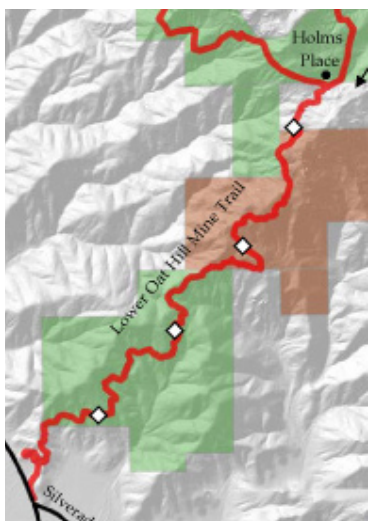
MUD BATHS & MASSAGE



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!

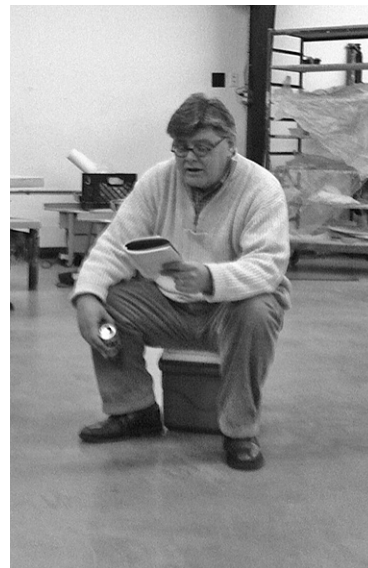
CRAZY FOR THEATER

Calistogans love to act, and we have one or two opportunities for visitors to enjoy the fun as well.

This year, the Calistoga Players are putting on a Spring production at the Calistoga Art Center in the Cropp Building at the fairgrounds.

"It's a Wonderful Life" took the stage for evening and matinee performances in November and December. Go to www.CalistogaArtCenter.org for more information.

The Calistoga Art Center also hosts a monthly Art Market from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., free and open to the public.



Actor Kevin Fitzpatrick rehearses his part in "It's a Wonderful Life" presented last season.

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.

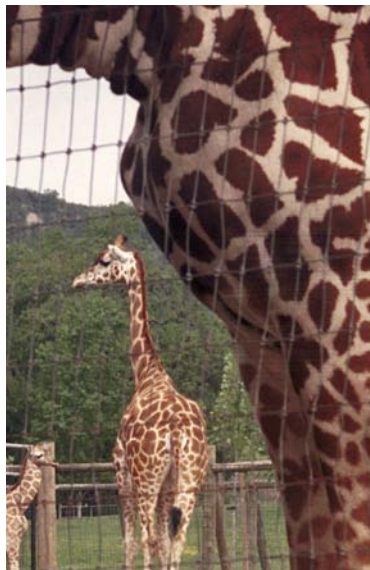
Want more? How about a unique wine-tasting room featuring the region's best award-winning wines, and a gift shop with great wine accessories, beautiful jewelry, clothing, glassware and its own broad selection of California wines.

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 Bikeshop at 942-9687 for bike rentals, tour routes, and their Cool Wine Tour.

The Calistoga Bikeshop Cool Wine Tour package includes: Comfort bike, complete with hel-

met, picnic or wine bottle pack, map, and lock; wine tasting education and concierge service; souvenir logo wine tasting glass; bottled water; free tastings at seven small out-of-the-way Calistoga wineries; wine pick-up and delivery and roadside assistance. Cost is \$79.99 plus tax per person.

Call the Bikeshop at 942-9687 or stop by 1318 Lincoln Avenue for rental information.

FARMERS MARKET



Every Saturday from 9:30 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 begin Thursday, June 19 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



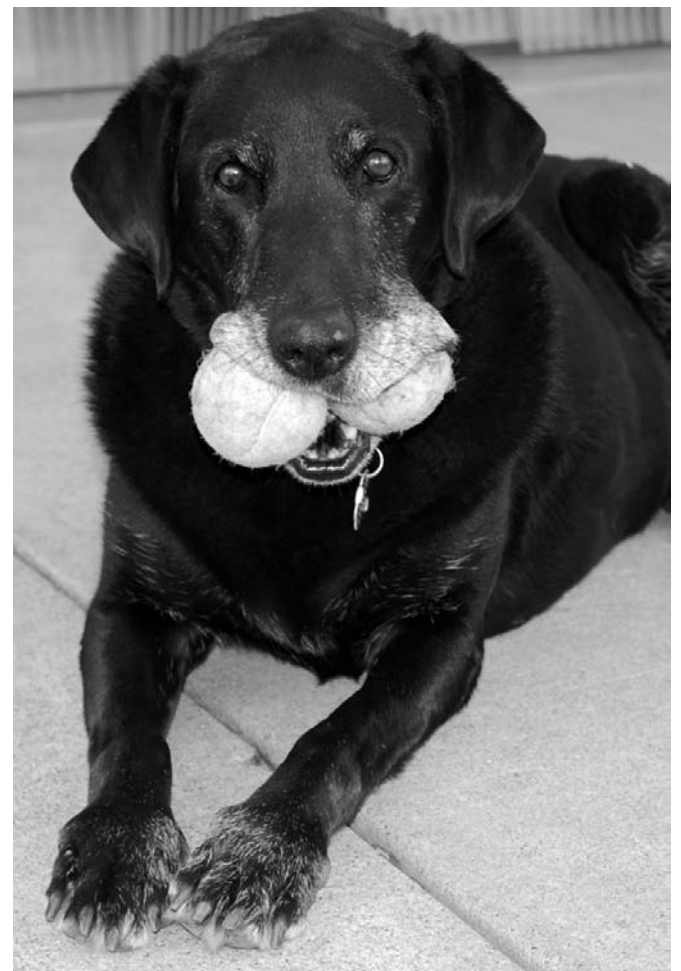
The Calistoga Art Center offers classes for all ages.

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

3 PALMS

Continued from page 10

characteristic is there in all the wines from '78 through today. We actually popped the '78 at our 35th anniversary celebration, and it was spectacular."

The vertical tasting included a first-ever bottling of Three Palms Cabernet Sauvignon. Ary generously provided this reporter with a bottle of 2011 Merlot for later consideration with a pork chop. The '11 vintage, released on April first of this year, is unique in Duckhorn history: going back to the '78 vintage, the Uptons had always divided the contract between Duckhorn and Sterling Vineyards, the Calistoga winery founded by Upton's cousin, Peter Newton. In 2011, Duckhorn assumed complete control of the contract.

For Alex Ryan, who has seen it all at Duckhorn, the new fruit contract is simply another step in the co-evolution of the winery and Three Palms. "We've been great buyers from the Upton brothers really since the 1978 vintage and have purchased fruit for the last 37 years from them."

Another witness to the evolution of Three Palms is the longtime San Jose wine merchant, Bert George. George, who also farms a vineyard in Yountville, is a loyal supporter of many Napa Valley wineries, but Duckhorn and Three Palms are especially important to him and his staff.

"Unless it has some really good character, [Merlot] can be an uninteresting wine," he said over the phone. "Three Palms has always had that extra everything, meaning layers of flavor, and that full mouth-feel."

"I don't want to use the term 'old standard,' but this is the old higher and highest standard in Merlot. In the hierarchy of Merlot, this would be the name at the top, absolutely the top."

In the world of collectors, Three Palms Vineyard has, for most of its existence, produced wine comparable to some of the great Chateaux of Bordeaux, and to the wines of Pomerol and St. Emilion in particular, where Merlot is a dominant grape variety. Hiram Simon, an Englishman in Berkeley who is a respected French wine importer, has been drinking and collecting Bordeaux wines for many years. But starting in 2000, he also began to

acquire Three Palms at wine auctions, where it occasionally shows up in the catalogues. Leaning towards well-stored wines with extended bottle and cellar age, he's become a collector of several great Three Palms vintages from the 1980s, including the extraordinary '86, which he opened at home and tasted recently.

"Often in Bordeaux," Simon said, asked to compare Three Palms to the French region, "it's hard to tell Cabernet and Merlot apart. It's as if the terroir transcends the grape variety. Merlot tends to like heavier soils. Cabernet likes well-drained soils, which is why the rule of thumb is that Cabernet is grown on the gravel soils of the Left Bank and Merlot is grown on the clay and limestone soils of the Right Bank."

Sipping the aromatic, earthy '86 Three Palms, he observed that "it's not at all difficult to confuse Right Bank and Left Bank Bordeaux. But I don't think you'd confuse this wine for a Cabernet in a month of Sundays. It has an utterly distinctive varietal profile in Napa."

Alex Ryan and his crew at Duckhorn are upbeat about the new release of Three Palms, and they're a high-energy group of people in general. However, like Sloan Upton, they're mired in a terrible drought, and they have statewide company. Coming off of two large, healthy harvests, 2012 and '13, prospects for the immediate future are good in terms of the winery's inventory, but Alviso and Upton are gearing up for increased demands on their expertise, especially for managing water and heat, two distinct challenges in the sunny, rocky neighborhood of Three Palms.

"You've got to be an optimist here in this game," Upton reflected. "I think the goodness that will come out of this wretched weather situation is that if we manage the vines properly so we don't get a large crop, and we really get a small crop, I think the quality is going to be absolutely super. I mean, it usually is."

Whatever the harvest of 2014 brings, after almost half a century of them, his and his brother's achievements at Three Palms are storied. "We've had a marvelous life here in the vineyard."



Tony Poer's Tasting Notes

Duckhorn Vineyards

2011 Three Palms Merlot, Napa Valley

Deep red to black; herbs, cedar, stones, cinnamon, spicy, hint of aniseed. Lightness on palate, some forward oak, very bright acid,

rich but very high-toned, lush, juicy red cherry, raspberry, some wild berry fruit, firm minerality, needs lots of air. Structured and balanced. Excellent 2011 for the cellar.

2011 Three Palms Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley

Red-black, very extracted; aromatic, a bit brooding, very complex cherry-berry notes, tobacco, cigar box, mineral, Bordeaux-like, classic cassis aromas, touch of gaminess and leather; angular tannins, somewhat chunky, good mid-palate cassis, black berry, plum, touch of raspberry juiciness though long finish, very balanced. Tannins are big and firm. Buy and forget, needs a decade!

2009 Three Palms Merlot, Napa Valley

Deep red to black; stony-mineral nose, tobacco, earth, spiced plums, black cherry. Rich and very focused fruit, dried cherry, black cherry, blackberry, still angular/chewy, very bright acidity. Balanced overall, very cellar-worthy, needs time, minimum 10-year cellar wine.

2007 Three Palms Merlot, Napa Valley

Deep red to black; spicy-earthly nose, black fruits, Bordeaux-like mineral notes; forward oak, very big texture, chewy tannins, rich and zingy fruit, plums, black cherry, a touch of jam with aeration, savory-meaty, balanced and bright acidity through finish. Super-complex and impressive, cellar-worthy, massive Merlot.

2005 Three Palms Merlot, Napa Valley

Deep red to black; lush fruit, very aromatic, summer berries, red cherry, plummy, earthy notes; juicy cassis and black cherry fruit, very rich, supple, integrated tannins, a little blackberry, sweet fruit notes through long finish, perfectly balanced and still youthful. In a league with the '86. Amazing Merlot. Will go another decade.

1986 Three Palms Merlot, Napa Valley

Pale red to ruby; rich and complex nose, floral-mineral, dried red fruit, leather, savory, touch of meatiness, very focused; Pomerol-like, very rich, still weighty and fat, very lively, cassis, dried cherry, round and integrated tannins, amazing fruit-earth complexity, pronounced minerals through long-long finish. Developed but still has a lot of life. A++ Napa Valley red wine.

"We made a vineyard-designated, varietal Merlot in 1978, released in 1980, for \$12.50 a bottle, when most Merlots went for seven bucks. So this was already kind of setting the new pace. The wine was wildly successful due to a number of things: the '78 vintage was remarkable; the wine industry's momentum since the Judgment of Paris and new investment and new excitement in Napa Valley were roaring; and people just wanted to drink something different. They wanted to get away from the old boring stuff. So a lot of roads were perfectly aligned here for success."

—Alex Ryan, president, Duckhorn Vineyards



Uncorking fun wine facts

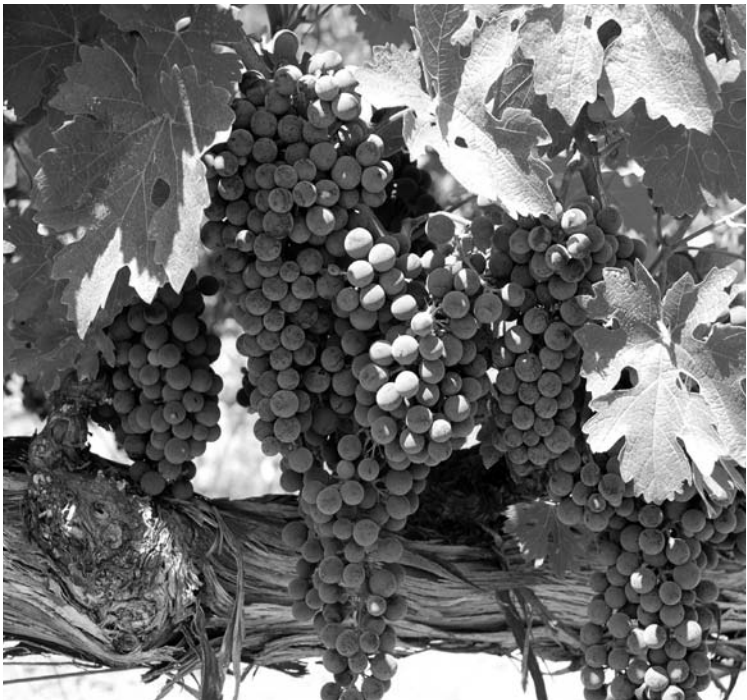
Napa Valley’s rare diversity of microclimates is ideal for growing fine wine grapes.

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

Half Bottle

Piccolo/SpillPony

Holds 2 bottles of wine

Bottle, holds 750 ml of wine

Holds half a bottle

Holds 1/4 a bottle

Goliath

Solomon

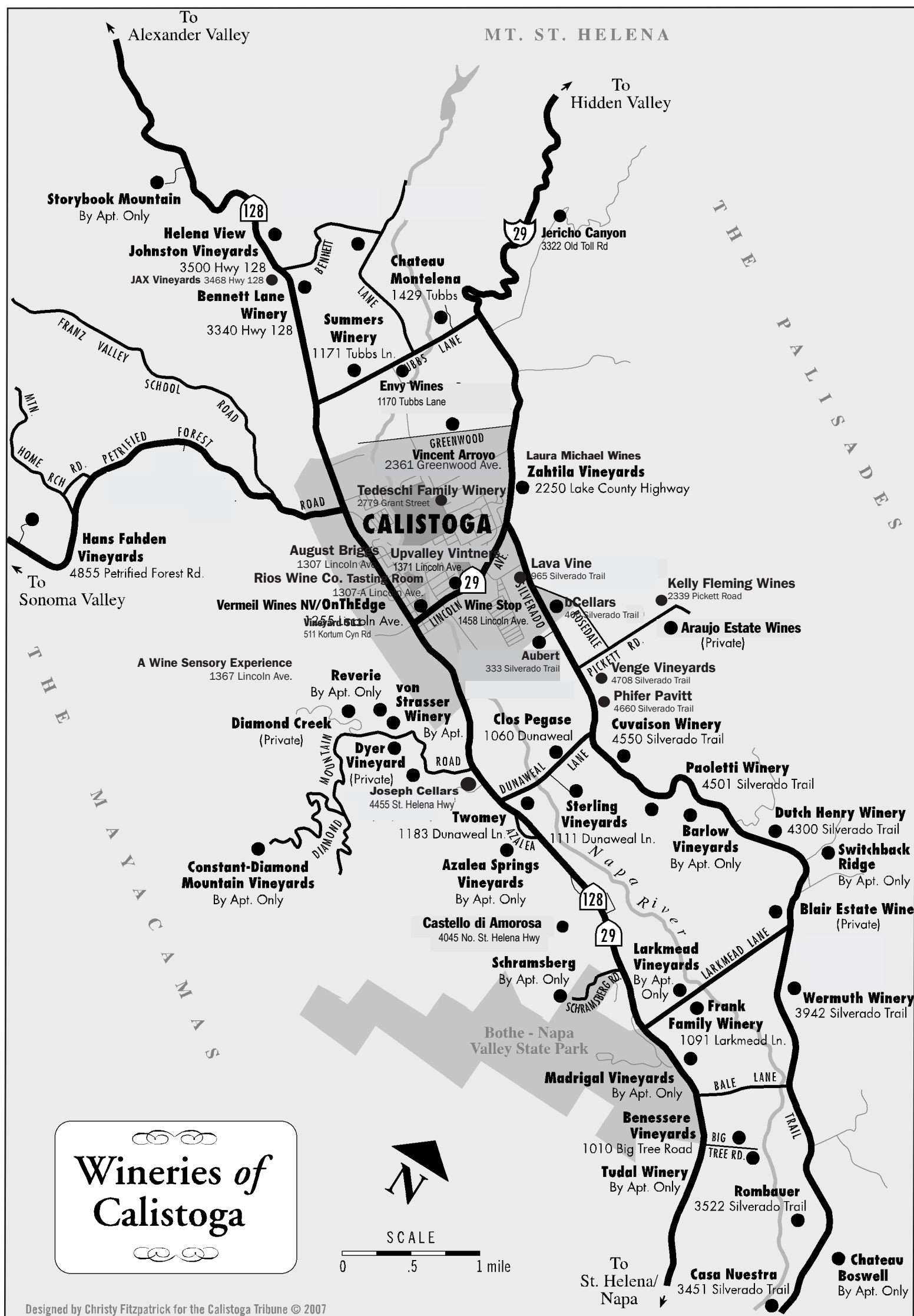
Nebuchadnezzar

Balthazar

Samurai

Methusalem

Jeroboam



Cuvaison Estate Wines
942-2468 • 4550 Silverado Trail
Daily 10-5 Cave Tours & Tasting: 10:30
daily, fee \$15. Picnic tables.

CALISTOGA Wineries



Diamond Creek
Not open to the public.
www.diamondcreekvineyards.com

Dutch Henry Winery
942-5771 • 4310 Silverado Trail
Daily 10-4:30 Tasting Fee: \$10
Small lots of handcrafted wines.

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 Tours, tasting and retail sales.
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. Committed to the principles of organic sustainable farming methods.

JAX Vineyards
(415) 446-9505 • 3468 Highway 128
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 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

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.

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 Datnight cabernet.

Rancho de las Flores Cellars
942-5924 • 3942 Silverado Trail
Open for tasting 11-4, near daily. Cabernet and Blanco from colombard grapes.

Reverie
942-6800 • 1520 Diamond Mtn Road
By appointment only. Small, ultra-premium 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 Dunaweal Lane
Daily 10:00-4:30 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 10:30-4:30 Tasting Fee: \$5 (waived w/purchase). Picnic area and bocce ball

Switchback Ridge
Not open to the public.
www.switchbackridge.com

T-Vine
942-1543 • 810 Foothill Blvd (Hwy 29)
Open daily for tours and tasting 10-4:30

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.tomedywines.com.

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

Twomey Cellars
942-2489 • 1183 Dunaweal 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.

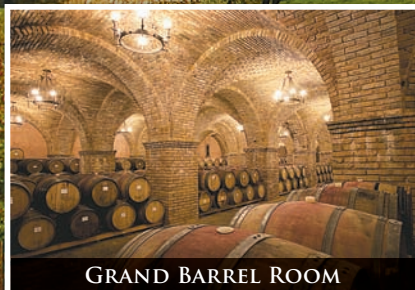
Wallis Family Estate
Not open to the public.
www.wallisestate.com

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

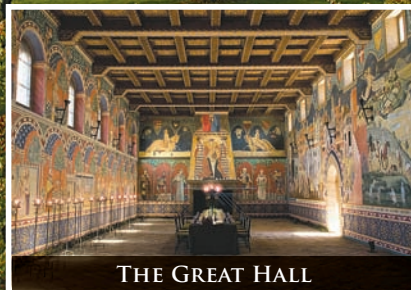
Zahtila Vineyards
Laura Michael Wines
942-9251 • 2259 Lake County Hwy
Daily 10-5. Producing premier vintages of zinfandel and cabernet sauvignon.

Castello di Amorosa

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CHARDONNAY
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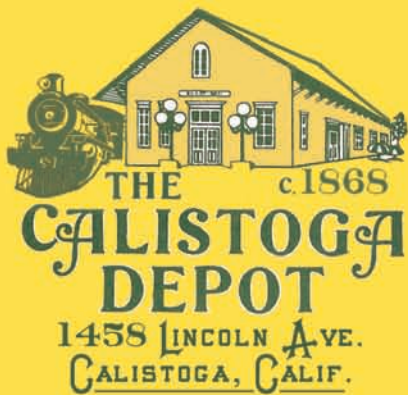


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Built in 1846, the Old Bale Mill has been restored to operating condition complete with its 36-foot wooden waterwheel. On weekends between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. you can watch the miller make fresh cornmeal.

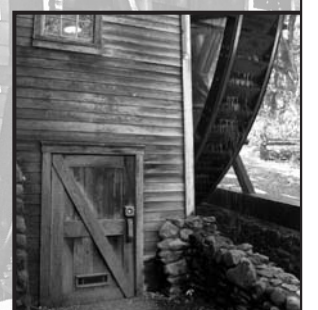
Flour and freshly ground cornmeal available for a donation. The granary offers displays and gift items for park visitors.

Nearby Bothe-Napa Valley State Park is open seven days a week for day hiking and picnics and camping. The state has agreed to allow two local non-profit agencies to take over management of both the Bale Grist Mill and Bothe-Napa Valley State Park. The campgrounds and Visitor Center are open and await your visit!

Call 942-4575 for more information.

Bale Grist Mill State Historic Park

3369 Hwy 29
4 miles south of Calistoga



Bale Grist Mill