

The Best Napa Valley Wineries to Visit Right Now, According to Industry Insiders

BY LAYNE RANDOLPH

With over 500 wineries producing some of the world's most exquisite bottles, **Napa Valley** can be difficult to narrow down. From sun-kissed vineyards to deep-rooted winemaking history, there's so much to explore in this vast region. But whether it's your first visit or you're a Napa regular, the best way to experience the valley is with recommendations from the local wine experts themselves.

Here, we break down the best Napa Valley wineries worth a visit and where to stay nearby based on suggestions from those who are really in the weeds of wine.



IMAGE COURTESY OF SUZANNE BECKER BRONK

Alpha Omega Winery

Strategically positioned along Highway 29, the main road through Napa Valley, Alpha Omega is a standout winery. With its iconic pool with jetting water fountains and outdoor patio for sipping wine, it's a stunning space to take in.

"I have them to thank for my preference for the [Atlas Peak AVA](#) within Napa," says Nathan Davies, general manager for [Napa Valley's Wine Train](#), a vintage train, gourmet restaurant and wine-tasting transport from Napa to [St. Helena](#). "When you are blessed to taste nine single vineyard Cabernets from nine AVAs by the same winemaker in the same vintage, you get to taste the essence of what makes up a great wine and where it came from."

Davies admires the winemaking, too, "[Alpha Omega has] an excellent cold fermentation wine-making style that cools the tannins when you are forced to drink the wine young," he says.

Reservations are required for single vineyard, signature, curated, private and group tastings.

Where to Eat: The town of Rutherford is tiny and known mainly for its wineries, the "Rutherford dust" that characterizes the Rutherford AVA and, of course, the [Rutherford Grill](#) that anchors the town. Because it's on Highway 29 between Yountville and St. Helena, it's the perfect place to refuel with fantastic elevated-American comfort food between wine tastings.

Where to Stay: Voted the best hotel in Napa Valley by [Napa Valley Life Magazine](#), [Auberge Du Soleil](#) is a striking oasis among the vineyards. "Auberge de Soleil is a luxurious resort in Rutherford that offers stunning views of the valley and high-end amenities such as a spa and Michelin-starred restaurant," says Christina Turrini, a Bay Area luxury travel agent.

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