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# GUIDE: EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE RUTHERFORD APPELLATION & WHERE TO VISIT

Rutherford is a tiny Napa Valley appellation consisting of only 6,650 acres under vine. of Rutherford's key characteristics is that the fruit spends more time in the sun than a other appellation. Located between the Mayacamas and Vaca mountain ranges its dim temperature shifts (warm days followed by cool nights) allows Rutherford fruit to ripe evenly and steadily. Despite its diminutive size it's home to some of California's most historic wineries. It is world famous for the "Rutherford Dust," which essentially refer the unique terroir particularly with respect to Cabernet Sauvignon. Wines from this appellation are distinguished by their signature soft, round mouth-feel and "dusty" ta The soil, composed of gravel, loam, and sand, as well as several diverse microclimates contribute to the fruit's unique character that results in wines of particular merit.

## **ALPHA OMEGA**



Founded in 2006 by Robin Baggett, Alpha Omega is a picturesque winery with old cou charm. It sources fruit from stellar vineyards such as Beckstoffer and Newton. Talente winemaker, Jean Hoefliger crafts the wine. Additionally, consulting winemaking super Michel Rolland, has worked with the winery since 2006. Low intervention, close attendetail, and a deep commitment to the ultimate expression of the vineyard result in wire elegance and balance. Alpha Omega is well known for Cabs, however their Sauvignon is a huge hit as well. Stylistically reminiscent of New Zealand savvies, it's fresh, vibran yummy to the last drop.

Address: 1155 Mee Lane at Hwy 29, Rutherford, CA

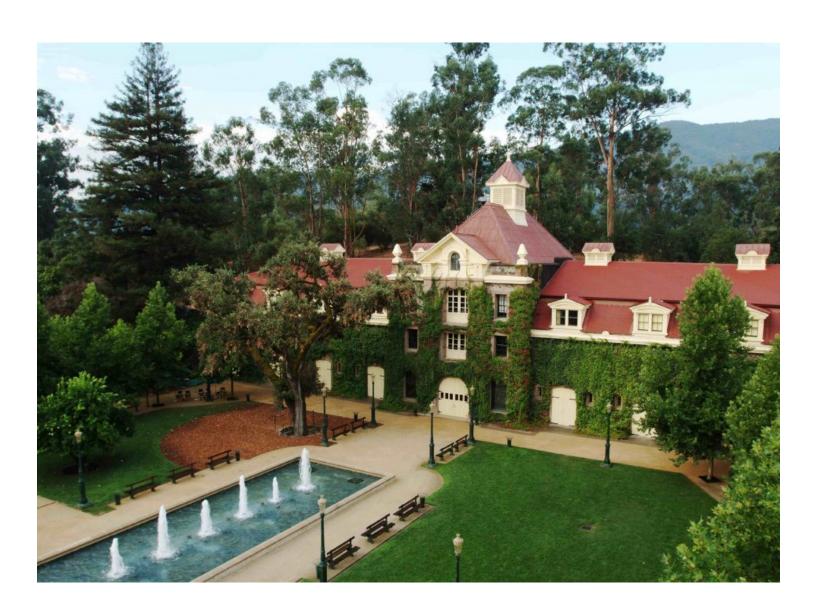
## **CAYMUS VINEYARDS**



Caymus, named after the land grant titled "Rancho Caymus," released its first vintage 1972, a whopping 240 cases of Cabernet Sauvignon. Thirty-two years later, they are ma close to 65,000 cases. Given the brand's international acclaim, success, and growth, it worth noting that it is still owned and farmed by the Wagner family. Founder Chuck V is still the winemaker of record. He crafts the only two wines: small lots of the stellar C Special Selection, bottled from very best barrels from a given vintage, and the Napa Va selection.

Address: 8700 Conn Creek Rd, Rutherford, CA

# **INGLENOOK VINEYARDS**



Rutherford's most famous winery, Inglenook, dates back to 1878 when a Scandinavian captain. Gustave Niebaum, decided to call Rutherford home and build a world class w

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The winery fell victim to prohibition but was reopened post-prohibition by Gustave's In the Mad Men fifties and sixties, Inglenook wines were considered to be the best in US. In 1975, the property was acquired by filmmaker Francis Ford Coppola. For a whil famed winery bore the name "Rubicon" until Coppola re-acquired the trademark that changed hands over the years. Once again, Inglenook reigns and the wines are winning world-wide accolades.

Address: 1991 St Helena Highway, Rutherford, CA 94573

### **HALL WINES**



Hall has two locations, one in Rutherford and one in St Helena. Halls' opulent 14,000 foot caves exhibit a portion of Kathryn and Craig Hall's personal art collection. Their are as beautiful as their wines. The vineyards are managed by veteran viticulturist Dor Munk and the wine is made by Napa Valley's own Steve Leveque (formerly of Chalk F. Their wines are qualitatively consistent and drop dead gorgeous. Their Sacrashe viney

composed of volcanic ash soils with numerous microclimates. The terroir creates challenging growing conditions and naturally limits vigor and yield, concentrating flav The wines are plush, massive, yet deftly balanced. Tannins are a textbook "Rutherforc – round, soft, and expansive.

Address: 401 St Helena Hwy, St Helena, CA

### STAGLIN FAMILY VINEYARD



The Staglins purchased their Rutherford Bench estate in 1985. It was a culmination of longtime dream to make wine as a family business. The sixty-acre property is ideally leand boasts an extraordinary diversity of soils. Their wines have won numerous awards have been the critic's darlings for decades. They bottle wines under two labels: their namesake, Staglin, and Salus, named after thae Roman goddess of health and well-being proceeds from the sales of Salus are donated to mental health research, a cause that he home when their son Brandon was diagnosed with schizophrenia at a young age

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Address: P.O. Box 68oRutherford, CA

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Rutherford Staglin Family Vineyard Wine

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Ilona Thompson

lona Thompson is Editor-in-Chief at PalateXposure, a destination site for oenophiles, gourmands and luxury travelers. She also recently launched #Wine, a site dedicated to wines and spirits reviews, and #Photography, a site devoted to high-quality wine, for and travel related photography.

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