



nileGUIDE

ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP



Ian L

Green Travel Guide to Napa

Napa Valley, 5 Days

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Guide Description



AUTHOR NOTE: Known the world over for wine making and grape growing, Napa isn't as environmentally enlightened as you might think. Growing grapes requires a great deal of water and -- unless they're organic -- quite a lot of pesticides, too. And Napa Valley culture, influenced by generations-old family farming dynasties, can be slow to change and accept new ways.

For these reasons, green travel has come late to the party in Napa. But now that it's here, the Napa Valley boasts some of the greenest hotels in the country. The three-year-old Gaia Hotel, for example, was the first LEED-certified gold property in the U.S., and newer resorts like Solage and the Silverado Resort have put in place all sorts of environmentally friendly initiatives. (At Solage, for example, room service requests are fulfilled by staff members on bicycles.)

The latest arrival on the Napa Valley scene, Bardessono Hotel, isn't so much catching up, as surpassing rival properties. One of only a handful of hotels in the U.S. reaching for platinum LEEDS status, Bardessono is green through and through, from the rammed-earth walls and recycled materials it's built from to its state-of-the-art energy system, fed by 900 solar panels and 82 geothermal wells, that produces so much energy last year they had to sell some of it back to PG&E.

Developer Phil Sherburne, who grew up on an Oregon dairy farm and was a semi-famous student organizer in the 1960s, has earned plenty of green cred for his efforts. Robert Redford was one of the first celebrity guests, and Toyota used the hotel's conference facilities to launch the new redesigned Prius. But the main reason to come to Bardessono is that it's just plain gorgeous.

Built on and taking its name from one of Yountville's prime agricultural homesteads, the ranch farmed for generations by the sprawling Bardessono family, this luxury boutique hotel and spa is laid out in such a way that guests spend almost every waking moment outdoors. The rooms, which are clustered in separate pod-like buildings, are designed for almost complete privacy; you honestly don't have to see your fellow guests if you'd prefer not to. (A lure for celebs, I'm sure.) And the gardens are laid out in an airy, pseudo-Zen fashion with rock-tiled paths meandering between stone-lined streambeds.

Among the many water features is a Stonehenge-like fountain that's eerily breathtaking at night. The restaurant, which serves a surprisingly reasonable prix-fixe four-course dinner on Sundays that's attracting locals as well as guests, does farm-to-table

cuisine with all the attention to freshness and herb-infused flavor it deserves. And the spa -- all I can say is, it's worth it to pay a little extra for the vinotherapie massage, which features light, aromatic Chardonnay grapeseed oil and leaves you limp as a rag but greaseless enough to hop straight in the pool. Which, with its enormous enclosed, pillow-strewn cabanas reminiscent of a seventies Middle Eastern-themed restaurant, is phenomenal, by the way.

Napa Valley foodie towns like Yountville have long been famous for name-brand restaurants like The French Laundry, but what's less well known is the leadership Napa Valley chefs have played in what's now being called "farm to fork" cuisine. What this means is that the heirloom tomatoes in your caprese salad were grown in the restaurant's own garden, the sheep's milk cheese that tops them is from the dairy down the road, the oysters on the grill were harvested from nearby Tomales Bay.

Bardessono's restaurant uses herbs grown in an aromatic kitchen garden right on the property, while a bigger garden producing the bulk of the produce is located on land loaned by a nearby winery. While this garden isn't open for viewing, right next to it is The French Laundry's enormous and fruitful garden (both gardens are across the street from The French Laundry on Washington street) careful labeling makes it possible to see exactly what the exotic eggplants, peppers, squash, and berries featured in Thomas Keller's iconic recipes look like while they're still on the bush.

Itinerary Overview

things to do
restaurants
hotels
nightlife

Day 2 - Napa Valley



Skyline Trail

Napa singletrack

Day 2 - Napa Valley

QUICK NOTE

contact:

tel: (707) 252-0481

<http://www.ncfaa.com/skyline/about.htm>

location:

2201 Imola Ave.
Napa CA 94559

1 Skyline Trail

DESCRIPTION: Semi-technical ride on 90% singletrack in Skyline Wilderness Park, this ride comes highly recommended for a medium loop. The loop includes the Skyline Trail, Chaparral Trail, Rim Rocks Trail, and Marie Creek Trail. © NileGuide

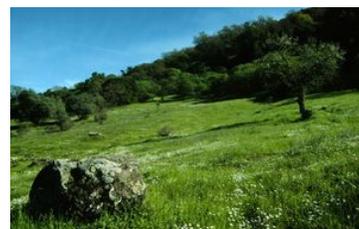


Photo courtesy of Skyline Trail

Napa Valley Snapshot

Local Info

Napa Valley attracts some 5 million visitors each year, and for good reason. Located 50 miles north of San Francisco, Napa Valley is one of the world's premier wine-growing regions, home to picturesque small towns filled with foodie-fave restaurants, wellness spas, award-winning golf courses, artisan-oriented shops, and beautiful open spaces offering hiking adventures and ridgetop views...What's not to love?

Napa

The city of Napa is the largest of Napa Valley's communities, yet downtown Napa retains the feel of a quiet country town. While quite a few mansions and large estates rest back against the hill, Napa tends to be a friendly, down-to-earth town with a refreshingly unpretentious personality. In every season, the farms and wineries dotting the valley make a glorious setting for bike rides and country drives.

Napa's history as the center of the valley's Italian heritage is reflected in a variety of top-quality Italian restaurants. The valley's Hispanic population leaves its culinary mark as well; no drive down Soscol is complete without a quick bite to eat at one of the town's famous beloved taco trucks. The Carneros area on Napa's south side, prized by aficionados for its Pinot Noirs and Chardonnays, now features a slew of hip new inns and restaurants. And the revitalized riverfront area is a mecca for hopping bars and lively galleries.

The commercial center, known as the "Old Town" district, bustles with retail stores and boutique wine shops like Bounty Hunter Rare Wine and Provisions. "Old Town" provides casual dining options like ZuZu, a popular tapas restaurant with tons of local color, literally: most of the artwork featured is from Napa Valley artists.

Yountville

Yountville is far closer to the popular Falcon Crest image of Napa Valley, retaining as it does the quaint charm a small, country town. Less populous and more gentrified than the city of Napa, there are also a lot of grapes growing here. You may see the vineyards first, strangely enough, as a bright, metallic twinkle: growers use reflective foil to scare away grape-eating birds. Yountville, however is perhaps

most famous for first-class dining: French Laundry, Bistro Jeanty, Bouchon, and Ad Hoc are clustered right here. Nationally famed, these establishments are happily embraced by San Franciscans as an integral part of the Bay Area restaurant culture, but clearly, they and Yountville stand on their own (and standing is indeed what you will do if you don't make a reservation weeks in advance). In 2007, the inaugural year of the Michelin Guide to San Francisco, Bay Area & Wine Country, several Yountville restaurants were awarded Michelin Stars.

Oakville

By this point, one has entered the heart of Napa Valley: Wine production. Robert Mondavi, one of the titans of California wine, is headquartered in Oakville. Other, smaller wineries can be seen on both sides of the valley, though the premium cellars seem to be on the west side. While tiny Oakville has a post office, it's really an unincorporated part of Napa County, best known for the Oakville Grocery, a legendary roadside delicatessen stocked with a mind-boggling array of gourmet delights from France, Italy, and their own kitchens. As with other spots throughout the valley, one is likely to be greeted in the early spring by a waving sea of yellow under sparse vineyards: growers often plant mustard underneath grapevines.

Rutherford

Microscopic Rutherford is home to Beaulieu Vineyards, Rutherford Grove, Rutherford Hill, and St. Supery Vineyards & Winery. Take in Napa's landscape with a chilled bottle of sparkling wine in Mumm's outdoor terrace. Francis Ford Coppola's Niebaum-Coppola Estate, generally mobbed with tourists, features memorabilia from his career in cinema. Rutherford is also a fine place to eat: Restaurant at Auberge du Soleil and La Toque are two exceptional Napa Valley restaurants.

St. Helena

With its rows of historic stone and beam storefronts and perfectly restored Victorians, downtown St. Helena looks much it did in the early 1900s. Off the main street, cottage gardens are tucked between elegant bed and breakfasts in historic mansions, while elegant boutique hotels surround fountain-bedecked quiet

courtyards. The Silverado Museum hosts an exhibit of Robert Louis Stevenson ephemera. Fans of ghost story writer and misanthrope Ambrose Bierce will want to stay at the Ambrose Bierce House, now a bed and breakfast. St. Helena is also home to the Beringer Vineyards, a popular tasting destination.

The Culinary Institute of America at Greystone is hidden in the vineyards of St. Helena. The CIA is a master's level training center for working, certified chefs. It's situated in the former home of the Christian Brothers winery, an awe-striking, three-story, 101-year-old building that housed generations of winemaking friars. Take a look at some of the history exhibits inside, and don't miss Brother Timothy's 1800-piece corkscrew collection. The CIA gives cooking demonstrations in their fully equipped teaching theater. Then enjoy the sights at the outdoor terrace of Wine Spectator Greystone Restaurant.

Calistoga

Calistoga is famous for the hot springs that bubble out of the geyser-studded northern end of the valley, and the mineral-infused mud that Europeans traditionally believed had healthful properties. Mud baths, along with mineral baths, saunas, hot steam treatments, whirlpools, and herbal body wraps, have all been an attraction of the area ever since San Francisco entrepreneur Sam Brannan first promoted the benefits of the area's hot springs in the mid-19th century. Dr. Wilkinson's Hot Springs Resort, Lavender Hill Spa, and Indian Springs Hotel & Spa are good spots to enjoy relaxing spa treatments.

To get a feeling for the thermal springs without getting in one, go two miles out of town on Tubbs Lane and catch Old Faithful Geyser of California. The geyser spouts boiling water 60 feet into the air every half-hour or so.

Calistoga is an engaging, health-conscious, bustling little town in every way. The Calistoga Inn Restaurant & Brewery or Wappo Bar & Bistro are all great places to replenish yourself after the ardors of a rub, steam, or scalding soak.

© NileGuide

Napa Valley Snapshot continued

History

The Wappo Indians, original residents of this fertile valley, named it Napa, meaning 'land of plenty'. Thinking of the acres and acres of robust grapes, it seems like a perfect name for the picturesque valley. The Wappos, however, were referring to the abundance of salmon, elk, and waterfowl in the Napa River. Even then, small wild grapes grew.

With the arrival of the Spanish, Napa Valley became Napa Rancho, a virtually unpopulated tract in the vast ranchland of Alta California. The Wappo way of life was quickly subsumed and rendered extinct by mission culture. Between 1820-1840, under Mexican rule, Napa County was divided into 12 ranchos. In 1836 the Mexican government gave the pioneer George Yount a grant for the Caymus Rancho, thereby putting into motion the foundations of modern Napa.

Yount was a pioneer in the development of the Napa Valley. He was one of the first Anglo-Saxon settlers, residents and builder of the first local homestead. Lastly, he cultivated the first grapes of Napa. After his death in 1865, Yountville was named in his honor.

Other homesteaders quickly followed Yount. The valley's soil was fertile; its wide hills were perfect for ranching. The river made it easy to ship cargo to San Francisco. The city of Napa became an important port and commercial center. Cattle, lumber, wheat, and quicksilver—mined, grown, and raised in Napa County, were shipped into the San Francisco Bay to feed a growing state.

The 1840s Gold Rush, coupled with Mexican cession of 1846, opened California to migration and settlement: ultimately forming the Napa Valley. Viable communities sprouted in Yountville, St. Helena, and Calistoga. Napa County was one of the original counties when California became a part of the United States in 1849.

Charles Krug established the first commercial winery in Napa Valley in 1861, and by 1889 there were 140 wineries in the area. The quick growth of the new wine industry was its undoing, however. In the late 1890s a surplus sank prices, and Phylloxera arrived on American shores. So it was hardly cheering, then, when in 1920 the National Prohibition Act became law. The vineyards lay fallow. Throughout

the Roaring Twenties, Napa was in the doldrums.

The Great Depression further slowed business. The 21st Amendment, which overturned Prohibition and was for Wine Country a message from the divine. In 1938, André Tchelistcheff introduced new techniques: aging wine in small French oak barrels, cold fermentation, vineyard frost prevention and malolactic fermentation—the process of change in wine in which tart malic acid is converted into a softer tasting lactic acid. These techniques helped bring Napa's wine production into the modern era.

In 1965, Robert Mondavi left his family's Charles Krug estate and opened the Robert Mondavi Winery in Oakville. It was the first large-scale production winery to be established since before prohibition. Following the introduction of the Mondavi estate, new wineries sprang up and grew rapidly. Today there are over 300 wineries in the Napa Valley growing several grape varieties including Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay and Pinot Noir.

The Paris Wine Tasting of 1976—a blind taste test, where Napa wines were tested among their rival French wines, shook the world of viticulture. In the results, California wines outranked their French counterparts. As a result, Californian wines, in the 1970s, grew in prestige and production.

Napa has become synonymous with luxury, from its wine to its five-star dining. In 2007, the inaugural year of the Michelin Guide San Francisco, Bay Area & Wine Country, Bouchon, The French Laundry, Restaurant at Auberge du Soleil, La Toque and Bistro Jeanty, all received Michelin Stars.

©

Hotel Insights

Of the millions of tourists traveling through Napa Valley every year, there are some who naturally want to stay for a day or two. The valley's lodgings stand ready, as graceful, pleasant, and varied as its wines. The first question one needs to ask oneself is whether to stay in a hotel or a bed and breakfast. Bed and breakfasts aren't for everyone: for better or worse, you are staying in a home. There may be chocolates and milk at bedtime, but the floorboards can squeak. There are, however, more B&Bs than hotels and

motels, especially when you get outside the city of Napa and go up-valley.

Napa

If one wants their hotel to reflect a bit of the region's character and history, Napa's Old World Inn is a good example: built in 1906, its color scheme is a hyper-Victorian pink, violet, blue and mint green. Of the larger bed and breakfasts, La Residence Country Inn with 16 rooms, and Blue Violet Mansion with 17 rooms are two of the more popular.

Yountville

For something truly one-of-a-kind, try Napa Valley Railway Inn, a complex of nine restored railway cars arranged around a central platform and station house. Unimpressed by those kinds of bells and whistles? Yountville's Napa Valley Lodge lays out complimentary champagne breakfasts.

St. Helena

If part of your attraction to bed and breakfasts is to escape the suffocating, corporate sameness of hotel chains, you would do well to try the Ambrose Bierce House. Bierce, author of the Devil's Dictionary, was famed for writing ghost stories, being a misanthrope, and disappearing mysteriously and permanently into Mexico. And this is indeed his house. There's nothing at all spooky about the lovely St. Helena three-room B&B, however, and the hosts aren't the least bit misanthropic.

Calistoga

Another vintage hostelry that tends towards the quirky is the creaky-floored Calistoga Inn, straight out of the Old West and perched atop a microbrewery. The nearby Pink Mansion rated a mention in Wine Spectator.

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Restaurants Insights

Just as Napa Valley saved the French wine industry with vine cuttings after the 19th-century Phylloxera blight, today's Wine Country chefs have given a new life and new direction to French cooking. It may not be a direction chefs in France acknowledge, of course, but the national awards showered upon chefs and restaurants in the Napa Valley is indicative of their influence on fine cuisine in America.

Napa Valley Snapshot continued

Cooks at Tra Vigne, the French Laundry, Auberge du Soleil, and a score of other valley kitchens have led the way.

Napa

Downtown Napa, trying to pull itself into the high orbit of brighter stars like Yountville and St. Helena, is scattered with bright, youngish spots like Celadon with its snappy fish satays, jerked pork, and a no-reservations policy.

On the farther edges of Napa are some excellent choices, as well: Bistro Don Giovanni and the The Royal Oak Vintner's Court at the Silverado Resort boast some of the city's best kitchens.

Yountville

Napa Valley's culinary capital: Bistro Jeanty, Bouchon, Brix Restaurant, The French Laundry, and Mustard's are some of the excellent restaurants sprinkled through sparsely populated Yountville. The specialty here is French cuisine, albeit with a California accent. Accolades for Yountville's restaurants tend to fly about like a ticker-tape in a parade: to save space, we'll simply mention that the James Beard Foundation dubbed Bouchon and French Laundry chef Thomas Keller "The Best Chef in America."

Travelers would be well advised to make their reservations weeks in advance of their journey, especially in the case of the French Laundry, Bistro Jeanty and-- well, any of the above-mentioned restaurants. Give it a good college try, at least-- there's no guarantee they won't be fully booked a month ahead of time.

Oakville

Not exactly a restaurant, the Oakville Grocery is still a must-stop for the epicure. What looks from the outside like an outdated roadside gas station is really a delicatessen stocked with a mind-boggling array of gourmet delights from France, Italy, and their own kitchens. Not much else in Oakville for would-be sit-down diners, but then it isn't even really a town (it's unincorporated).

Rutherford

Auberge du Soleil rivals the finest restaurants in Napa, and may have the edge in ambience: the sweeping view from its terrace is the best in the valley. First among the many attractions on Auberge's

menu is rotating, five-course "Taste of the Wine Country" menu. Auberge de Soleil is now also the Auberge du Soleil Inn, in the event you're too stuffed to leave the premises.

St. Helena

More recognizably a city than Yountville, Oakville, or Rutherford, St. Helena features a greater concentration and variety of restaurants. Most are on or near Main Street (Highway 29). While St. Helena's pricey reputation is justified, there are a few attractive, reasonably priced choices (which offer the additional advantage of eating without making a huge production out of it) like Pizzeria Tra Vigne and Taylor's Automatic Refresher.

A pricier middle range of bistros like Terra provide creative and polished renditions of French-Mediterranean classics. Expect the unexpected in the use of exotic local ingredients. Solidly in the huge-production category are the Restaurant at Meadowood and Tra Vigne, St. Helena's celebrity restaurants.

Another approach to lunch or dinner might be to try the Wine Spectator Greystone restaurant. Set in the Culinary Institute of America building, you needn't worry about being a guinea pig: the executive chef is Todd Humphries, also of San Francisco's vaunted Campton Place. Tuesdays and Wednesdays from mid-January through March, the Wine Spectator Greystone hosts Winter Evenings in Wine Country, a series of special food and wine events.

Calistoga

Attractive and refreshingly unpretentious, Calistoga offers day trippers and mudbathers a vibrant dining scene. Just about everything except Wappo Bar & Bistro is right on Lincoln Avenue, the main street. Brannan's Grill and the Calistoga Inn Restaurant & Brewery and other Lincoln Avenue restaurants share an obvious affection for Calistoga's frontiersy heritage. As with everywhere else in the valley, chefs are unafraid to innovate and cross boundaries.

Dressing for dinner? Leave your Valentino at home. You're eating with people who have spent all day in a mud bath.

©

Nightlife Insights

Napa Valley may have many delights, and for residents and many guests, one of them is its peace and quiet. Communities here are small, and tend to be affluent. Which is by way of saying that you won't find big-city nightlife here, and won't find a lot of hoe-downs or honky-tonks, either. There are bars, sure, but Wine Country propriety, noise ordinances, and the amount of wine consumed as part of the job all militate against raucous, after-hour saloons.

What you will find, albeit in more specialized and rarified formats, is culture. Classical. Jazz. The Arts. Primarily in a festival format, and often at wineries.

Arts Groups and Festivals

The Napa Valley Symphony, an unsung (no pun intended) but quite capable ensemble, plays year round in Yountville's Lincoln Theatre, with summer appearances at the Robert Mondavi Winery and occasionally elsewhere in the valley.

While Napa's Opera House now functions primarily as a civic center, the Jarvis Conservatory puts on an energetic program of operas, as well as Spanish-language zarzuelas. They're located at 2970 Monticello Road in Napa.

Chamber concerts and recitals are held regularly at Napa's First Methodist Church. (+1 707 252 7122 for the latest schedule).

The Napa Valley Stage Company (+1 707 257 6872) mounts productions May through December around the county.

Under the spreading oaks of Skyline Park, the Napa Valley Wine Festival features the work of songwriters and musicians in a series of concerts on three continuous stages, with attendant music workshops, gourmet food, and, of course, Napa Valley wines.

Calistoga's Napa Valley Blues Festival may be one exception to the rule. Big beats and jive talk rule the stage.

The Wineries

The foremost cultural nexus of the Napa Valley is not an arts center or symphony hall, it's-- and this should hardly surprise-- a winery. And not just any winery-- Robert Mondavi's. For years, Oakville's Mondavi Winery has been putting on concerts and series at their arts center. Their summer

Napa Valley Snapshot continued

festival is a big attraction, of which the Napa Valley Symphony is a mainstay, but smaller ensembles and solo artists, as well as jazz and popular musicians, put in appearances both in the summer series and throughout the year.

Domaine Chandon, Niebaum-Coppola Estate, Charles Krug and others put on occasional concerts and art exhibits, and the Napa Valley Wine Train has a semi-annual "jazz train," as well.

©

Things to Do Insights

Napa Valley is filled with wineries, spas and fabulous restaurants, all located in lovely natural surroundings.

St. Helena Stop by the St. Helena Farmer's Market, where you're sure to find some of the most fresh and delicious produce in the area. The Charles Krug Winery is the oldest in the Valley, and the St. Supery Vineyards & Winery is just as well-respected. Be sure to tour both and do some sampling. Check out the historic wheat mill at Bale Grist Mill State Park, then dine at the award-winning Terra.

Robert Mondavi Winery The Robert Mondavi Winery, started by arguably the most important figure in Napa winemaking history, the Hess Collection Winery and the Bouchaine Vineyards are all located close to one another, making a trip to each an easy option. Dine at the popular Bistro Don Giovanni. Also take the opportunity to catch a Napa Valley Symphony Performance.

Clos du Bois Winery There are as many wineries in Sonoma as there are in Napa. Notable among them are the Clos du Bois Winery, the Robert Young Estate Winery and the J Rochioli Vineyards & Winery. Have a fabulous dinner at the Hilltop Dining Room or the Foothill Cafe.

Old Town The Napa Valley Opera House was restored recently, although it is no longer functional. Visit the historic Stag's Leap Wine Cellars nearby. If you're a mountain bike enthusiast, you will like rocky Skyline Wilderness Park, famed for its rough terrain. The shopping and fine restaurants, such as Pearl, make Old Town a tourist hot spot.

Silverado Museum The Silverado Museum hosts an exhibit of 8,000 Robert Louis Stevenson's manuscripts and

belongings. Fans of ghost story writer Ambrose Bierce will want to see the display and perhaps even stay at the Ambrose Bierce House, now a bed and breakfast. In nearby Calistoga, you'll find the Bothe-Napa Valley State Park and the famed Old Faithful Geyser. Enjoy the traditional Italian fare at Bosko's Ristorante.

Seeing Napa Valley on wheels is the preferred option, since so many of its attractions are spread out.

Bike Tours St. Helena Cyclery Tour(+1 707 963 7736/<http://www.sthelenacyclery.com/>) Napa Valley Cyclery Tour(+1 707 255 3377) Backroads Bicycle Tours(+1 510 527 1555)

Wine Tours Niebaum-Coppola Estate Winery Tours(+1 800 782 4266/<http://niebaumcoppola.com/>) Wine Train Tour(+1 707 253 2111/<http://www.winetrain.com/>) St. Supery Vineyards & Winery Tours(+1 707 963 4507/<http://www.stsupery.com/>) Robert Mondavi Winery Tours(+1 888 766 6328/<http://www.robertmondaviwinery.com/>) Hess Collection Winery Tours(+1 877 707 4377/<http://www.hesscollection.com/>)

Train Tours Wine Train Tour(+1 707 253 2111/<http://www.winetrain.com/>)

Jeep Tours Wine Country Jeep Tours(+1 800 539 5337)

Balloon Tours Napa Valley Balloons(+1 707 253 2224) Balloons Above the Valley(+1 707 253 2222)

Glider Tours Calistoga Gliders(+1 707 942 5000)

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Travel Tips

Getting There

Air

The Napa County Airport(APC)+1 707 253 4300<http://www.napacountyairport.org/>

APC is located seven miles south of downtown Napa and accommodates small commercial and charter planes.

San Francisco International Airport(SFO)+1 800 435 9736<http://www.flysfo.com>

SFO is located 58 miles from Napa.

Oakland International Airport(OAK)+1 510 563 3300<http://www.flyoakland.com/>

OAK is located 50 miles from Napa.

Sacramento International Airport(SMF)+1 916 922 4789<http://www.sacairports.org/>

SMF is located 66.6 miles from Napa.

Some providers for SFO, OAK and SMF are:

American Airlines(+1 800 433 7300;<http://www.aa.com>) Continental(+1 800 525 0280;<http://www.flycontinental.com>) Delta Airlines(+1 800 221 1212;<http://www.delta-air.com>) Alaska Airlines(+1 800 252 7522;<http://alaskaair.com>) Southwest Airlines(+1 800 435 9792;<http://www.iflyswa.com>) United Airlines(+1 800 241 6522;<http://www.ual.com>) US Airways(+1 800 428 4322/<http://www.usairways.com>) jetBlue(+1 800 538 2583;<http://www.jetblue.com>)

Additional providers for SFO:

Air Canada(+1 888 247 2262;<http://www.aircanada.ca/home.html>) Air China(+1 800 986-1985;<http://www.airchina.com.cn/en/index.jsp>) Air France(+1 800 237-2747;<http://www.airfrance.com/us>) Air New Zealand(+1 800 262-1234;<http://www.airnewzealand.com>) AirTran Airways(+1 800 247-8726;<http://www.airtran.com>) ATA Airlines(+1 800 435-9282;<http://www.ata.com>) British Airways(+1 800 247-9297;<http://www.british-airways.com>) Cathay Pacific(+1 800 233-2742;<http://www.cathaypacific.com>) China Airlines(+1 800 227-5118;<http://www.china-airlines.com/en/index.htm>) Horizon Air(+1 800 547-9308;<http://horizonair.alaskaair.com>) Japan Airlines(+1 800 525-3663;<http://www.japanair.com>) Korean Air(+1 800 438-5000;<http://www.koreanair.com>) Lufthansa(+1 800 645-3880;<http://www.lufthansa.com>) Midwest Airlines(+1 800 452-2022;<http://www.midwestairlines.com>) Philippine Airlines(+1 800 435-9725;<http://www.philippineair.com>) Singapore Airlines(+1 800 742-3333;<http://www.singaporeair.com>) Virgin America(+1 1 877 359-8474;<http://www.virginamerica.com/va/priceToFlyAct.do?method=showPriceWindow>)

Additional providers for OAK and SMF:

Aloha Airlines(+1 800 367 5250;<http://www.alohaairlines.com>) Mexicana(+1 800 531 7921;<http://www.mexicana.com>)

Napa Valley Snapshot continued

From San Francisco International Airport

A-1 Yellow Cab.com(+1 650 878 0251;<http://www.a-1yellowcab.com>) Serra Yellow Cab(+1 650 991 3881;<http://www.dalycityyellowcab.com>) American Taxi Cab(+1 415 775 3315) Central Cab(+1 415 487 1004) Lucky Cab(+1 415 487 1004)

From Oakland International Airport

Yellow Cab Express(+1 510 528 9999) Friendly Cab(+1 510 536 3000) Yellow Airport Taxicab(+1 510 522 9999) Airport A1 Service(+1 510 594 9797) Airport Express Taxi Service(+1 510 524 7777) Airport Express Sunny Cab(+1 510 653 6333)

From Sacramento International Airport

Affordable Van& Taxi Service(+1 916 821 4471) AAA Taxi Shuttle Service(+1 916 362 5525) A Cab Co(+1 916 455 2727) Americab(+1 916 505 8294) Blondie's Taxi(+1 916 481 8111) Greyhound Taxi(+1 916 923 2121) Metro Cab(+1 916 416 0333) Sunshine Taxi(+1 916 791 2932)

Shuttle: Bayporter Express(+1 415 467 1800;<http://www.bayporter.com>) M&M Luxury Shuttle(+1 415 552 3200) South& East Bay Shuttle(+1 800 548 4664) Marin County Airport Express(+1 415 666 0166;<http://www.marincountyairportexpress.com>) Davis Airport(+1 800 565 5153) Evan's Airport Service(+1 707 255 1559) American Airporter Shuttle(+1 415 614 2000;<http://www.americanairporter.com>)

Car Rental: Avis(+1 800 831 2847;<http://www.avis.com>) Thrifty(+1 866 857 4545;<http://www.thrifty.com>) Hertz(+1 800 654 3131;<http://www.hertz.com>) National(+1 800 227 7368;<http://www.nationalcar.com>)

Limo: Art Limousine(+1 800 550 2024) Garden State Limousine(+1 800 323 9902) USA Shuttle Service(+1 800 954 5595) A Class Limousine(+1 650 754 1822;<http://www.aclasslimoservice.com/>) ABC Sedans and Limousines(+1 800 734 4313;<http://www.abcsedansandlimos.com/>) Airport Commuter Limo and Sedan Service(+1 888 876 1777;<http://www.airportcommuter.com/>) A Classic Limousine(+1 707 253 0999) Bauer's Limousine& Worldwide Transportation(+1 800 545-6688;<http://www.bauerslimo.com/>)

Train

Amtrak(+1 800 872 7245;<http://www.amtrak.com>)

Bus

Greyhound(+1 800 229 9424;<http://www.greyhound.com>)

Highway

From the Bay Area:

Take Hwy 101 N to Hwy 37 in Vallejo to Hwy 29(Sonoma Blvd) to the Napa Vallejo Hwy 221 which will become Soscol Ave in Napa or take I-80 E to Hwy 12 toward Napa and Sonoma to Hwy 29 to Hwy 221 which turns into Soscol Avenue.

From Sacramento:

Take I-80 W toward San Francisco and exit on Hwy 12 toward Napa and Sonoma. Take Hwy 29 to the Napa Vallejo Hwy 221 which turns into Soscol Avenue in Napa.

Getting Around

Plane

The Wine Plane(+1 888 779 6600)

Bus

Brewster Transport Company(+1 780 852 3211;<http://www.brewster.ca>)

Train

Napa Valley Wine Train(+1 800 427 4124;<http://www.winetrain.com>)

Rental Car Companies

Hertz(+1 800 654 3131;<http://www.hertz.com>) Enterprise(+1 707 253 8000;<http://www.enterprise.com>) Budget(+1 707 224 7846;<http://www.budget.com>)

Limousine Companies

Antique Tours Limousine Service(+1 707 226 9227;<http://www.antiquetours.net>) Beau Limousine Tours& Transportation(+1 800-792-5551;<http://www.beaulimousine.com>) Bordeaux Limousine, Inc.(+1 707 257 4501) California Wine Tours(+1 800 294 6386;<http://www.californiawinetours.com>) Celebrity Limousine Wine Tours(+1 800 307 7974) Classic Cadillac Limousine Service(+1 707 226 2739) Classic Limousine(+1 800 259 8401) First(1st) Classic Limousine(+1 800 658 5679) Napa Valley Crown Limousine(+1 800 286 8228) Napa Valley Limousine Services(+1 707 258 0689) Personal Limousine

Service(+1 888 458 4474) Pure Luxury Limousine Service(+1 800 626 5466;<http://www.pureluxury.com>) Royal Coach Limousine and Jet Services(+1 800 995 7692;<http://www.royalcoachlimousine.com>)

Taxi Companies

Black Tie Taxi Co.(+1 888 544 TAXI) Napa Valley Cab Napa Valley Cab Northbay Taxi& Wheelchair Northbay Taxi& Wheelchair

Public Transportation

VINE(+1 800 696 6443;<http://www.nctpa.net/vine.cfm>) is the fixed route bus system serving the Napa Valley. Napa Downtown Trolley(+1 707 251 2800;+1 800 696 6443) American Canyon Transit(+1 707 648 7275) Calistoga HandyVan(+1 707 963 4229) St. Helena VINE Shuttle(+1 707 963 3007) Yountville Shuttle(+1 707 944 1234)

Other

ABC Transport Express(+1 707 259 0363) All Airport Transport(+1 866 793 5466) Napa Wine Shuttle(+1 707 257 1950;<http://www.wineshuttle.com>)

Trip Planner

511 is a Bay Area Transportation Hotline which creates custom itineraries for public transportation in the Bay Area(dial 511 in the Bay Area;+1 510 817 1717;<http://www.511.org>).

If traveling overseas, take the safety precaution of registering your trip at <https://travelregistration.state.gov> and for helpful, practical advice about traveling technicalities and safety standards check out <http://travel.state.gov/>

Fun Facts

Napa Valley State: California **Country:** United States

Napa Valley by the Numbers:

Population: 124,279 Elevation: 33ft/10m Average Annual Rainfall: 26.5in/67cm Average Jan. Temperature: 57°F/14°C Average July Temperature: 83°F/28°C

Quick Facts:

Major Industries: Viticulture, Tourism Major Tourist Destinations: wineries, COPIA(the American Center for Wine, Food and the Arts), spas, dining, golf courses. Ethnic

Napa Valley Snapshot continued

Mix: 80.32% Caucasian, 0.52% African American, 26.83% Hispanic, 1.72% Asian
Time Zone: GMT-8 Country Dialing Code: 1
Area Code: 707

Did You Know?

Napa's mild climate and topography provide the perfect conditions for the vineyards, making one of the premier wine regions. Napa is home to over 300 wineries, and its popularity continues to grow. Hence, the term 'Wine Country' is synonymous with Napa.

Orientation:

Located in northern California, the Napa Valley is 50 miles/80 kilometers northeast of San Francisco, 40 miles/64 kilometers north of Oakland and 58 miles/93 kilometers southwest of Sacramento.

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