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California Wine Country – So Much More Than Wine!
Napa, Sonoma, Mendocino and Lake Counties



Find Your Freedom[®]

*"...this is the chosen spot of all this earth
as far as Nature is concerned."*

- Luther Burbank

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California Wine Country:
Sonoma, Napa, Lake and Mendocino Counties

HISTORY, CULTURE & DIVERSITY

Sonoma County played a pivotal role in California’s history. It was here that the northern expansion of Spain met the southern expansion of Russia on the Pacific Coast and marked the limit of expansion for both countries. It was in Sonoma County that American settlers staged the famed Bear Flag revolt that led to California’s joining the United States, and it was here that the California wine industry was born. Our cities and smaller communities all boast memorials to this rich and varied history.

Richard Florida’s study of America’s best cities, entitled “Who’s your city?” lists Santa Rosa, the County seat, as one of the top 5 small cities in the country. It ranks among the top 5 in the following categories: “Cities for young singles”, “Cities for Empty Nesters”, “Cities for Retirees” and “Cities for Gays and Lesbians”.

For Music buffs, Sonoma County is home to the newly-opened Green Music Center with its 1,400-seat Joan and Sanford I. Weill Hall, acoustically designed to rival great venues such as Boston Symphony Hall and Vienna Musikvereinsaal. It embodies the acoustical attributes of Seiji Ozawa Hall at Tanglewood; however, it surpasses its predecessor in terms of flexibility and comfort, while reducing its operating carbon footprint.

So Much More Than Wine!



Sonoma County

Sonoma County is not just a special place to grow world-class grapes and make great wines: It’s one of the most beautiful and resource-rich places on earth! Sonoma County is a million acres of small towns, back roads, pastures and vineyards, major highways, rustic inns and luxury resorts. Miles of pristine Pacific coastline and many other natural wonders are only the beginning of the story. With more than 50 miles of dramatic Pacific coastline, Sonoma County beckons those who love nature, outdoor activities and a love for the fresh salty air. Sonoma County is conveniently located 30 miles north of San Francisco. With over 200 award-winning wineries, scenic coastline and beaches, the mystical Russian River, majestic redwoods, 21 challenging golf courses, a thrilling road course and drag strip, more than 40 spas, fascinating museums, shopping, galleries, diverse festivals, farm markets and a variety of incredible eateries, why wouldn’t you choose to live in Sonoma County?



DRINK IN THE HOMEGROWN ATMOSPHERE AT MAYACAMAS GOLF CLUB ~ August 2008 “Between Santa Rosa and Healdsburg, this gated development quickly has become a premiere golf community with its Jack Nicklaus signature course.” - “USA Today”



EDUCATION IN SONOMA COUNTY

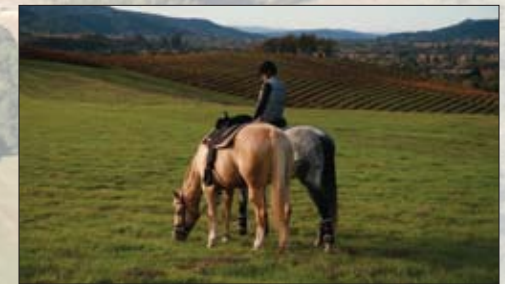
Sonoma County boasts an impressive array of educational opportunities, including reputable K-12 schools, technical and trade schools, a community college, 4-year university, and a number of graduate programs.



Sonoma Valley vineyards and ranch



**The Amgen Bicycle
Tour of California**



LIVING & WORKING IN SONOMA COUNTY

Business Week ranked Santa Rosa 14th out of 364 in best places to live for Generation Y'ers. This was attributed to Santa Rosa's high number of creative professionals and singles concentrated in a small region.

When people come to Sonoma County they do not just encounter numerous growing industries and business ventures, but a community of people striving to improve their quality of living. Whether it be creating a welcoming community to raise a family or a culturally stimulating environment to dine and socialize, Sonoma County is home to numerous endeavors to sustain a balance between living and working. Some of the many reasons people chose to call Sonoma County home include: beautiful serene surroundings, safe communities, an array of social and cultural activities and much more.

Outdoor enthusiasts have a wide range of activities to choose from: golf, kayaking, surfing, horseback riding, hiking, bicycling, boating and fishing to name a few. We are graced with 11 state parks and 46 county regional parks and marinas.

We are blessed with amazing diversity of foods and produce, along with chefs who take full advantage of Sonoma's bounty. Add to that our relaxed and friendly vibe and it all converges here.

Sonoma County boasts a variety of neighborhoods and residential communities, from the sleepy beach town of Bodega Bay to the college town of Rohnert Park. Cities in Sonoma County include: Santa Rosa, Petaluma, Healdsburg, Sebastopol, Windsor, Kenwood, Guerneville, Glen Ellen, Sonoma, Cloverdale and Cotati.

A short drive will take any County resident far from the traffic jams and hectic pace of the workday life, where they can explore a wealth of recreational opportunities found at the beautiful white sand beaches, or in the county's dense, unspoiled forests, filled with clear, pristine bays, creeks and rivers. The varied natural resources of the area and the subtropical climate provide an atmosphere where residents can choose from an abundance of recreational activities, including water sports, hunting, camping, tennis and golf.

