

NAPA

LUXURY LIVING IN CALIFORNIA WINE COUNTRY

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SONOMA



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FINDING ART

in places
unexpected

San Gao Wang's *Mesa*—an installation of metal tubes that reflect the surrounding landscape—at Donum Estate.

Gallery-worthy artworks are waiting to be discovered all across Wine Country—if you know where to look.

BY LAURA LEVY SHATKIN

Wine tasting might be the initial draw for visitors to Napa and Sonoma, but the region offers far more than vineyards—especially for culture lovers. While Wine Country is dotted with museums and galleries, artworks are popping up in unlikely spots throughout the area. Many wineries take great pride in showcasing local artists, both established and emerging, but you can also simply walk down a street in Santa Rosa or take a train ride up the Napa Valley to experience a mind-blowing array of paintings, sculptures, and more. Join us as we unveil these sweet spots of creativity.



THE DONUM ESTATE

Dotted with sculptures since 2015, this organic Sonoma estate currently has 29 works spread across its undulating vineyard and among its 150-year-old olive trees. Seen by reservation only, the collection boasts such notable pieces as Keith Haring's *King and Queen*, Louise Bourgeois's *Crouching Spider*, Ai Weiwei's *Circle of Animals/Zodiac Heads*, and Yayoi Kusama's *Pumpkin*. A site-specific construction by renowned artist Doug Aitken was recently installed in the eucalyptus grove. Taste Donum's wines as you stroll around the sculptures; an audio tour of the artists discussing their work is also available. thedonumestate.com.

IMAGERY ESTATE WINERY

As the name of this Glen Ellen property suggests, Imagery Estate's founders are art lovers. They commission contemporary artists to create unique works that appear on the brand's wine labels; that art is also showcased in the winery's on-site gallery, which often displays up to 60 pieces from its collection of more than 500 works. Highlights

include pieces by Sol LeWitt, William Wiley, and Judy Pfaff. Visit on Gallery Days—held on third Sundays from May to October—when a wine tasting is accompanied by artist appearances and label signings. imagerywinery.com.

PARADISE RIDGE WINERY

The four-acre Marijke's Grove, within this 156-acre Russian River Valley estate, is a beautiful setting for Paradise Ridge founder Walter Byck's sculpture collection. Affectionately named after his wife, Marijke, who passed away in 2006, the site features one of the winery's most iconic pieces: four giant letters that spell out the word *love*.

Curated in partnership with the Voigt Family Sculpture Foundation, the exhibits in the grove change on a biennial basis, bringing free public art to the foothills of Santa Rosa. On view through April is *Geometric Reflections*, a selection of 10 sculptures "designed to encourage visual dialogue." In June, the winery will unveil a new exhibition, tied to its own experience following the 2017 wildfires, that focuses on artists' struggles with loss. prwinery.com.

>> WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE DI ROSA? <<

With its two light-filled galleries and a sculpture meadow set on 217 scenic acres in Napa, the mesmerizing di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art has been a treat for Wine Country visitors and locals for more than two decades. Now the center is undergoing significant changes, which went into motion upon the passing of founder Rene di Rosa in 2010. The foundation that oversees the di Rosa stopped actively acquiring art, yet it planned to maintain its enormous and valuable collection of contemporary works by Bay Area artists. In mid-2019, however, the foundation's board of directors determined that the 1,600-piece trove was too costly to maintain, so they will be selling off the majority of it over the course of this year. Still, a "legacy collection" of several hundred pieces will remain on view, and the center will continue to collaborate with local artists and present their works to the community.

Wine

An aerial view of Migration Winery illuminates the majesty of Carneros.

CARNEROS RISING



Wine Country's most bucolic region is ready for its close-up.

BY JESS LANDER

A Taste of the Region

// EXPLORE THE DELIGHTS OF CARNEROS FIRSTHAND BY STAYING AND PLAYING IN THE AREA.

> THE DONUM ESTATE

Wine and art converge at Sonoma's Donum Estate, where visitors can sip and stroll alongside nearly 30 large-scale sculptures set throughout the 200-acre property. Among the estate's most prominent pieces is *Love Me*, a 24-foot mirrored steel heart by Richard Hudson that resembles Chicago's *Cloud Gate*. (For more on Donum's impressive art collection, turn to page 34.)

In 2017, the winery—which is known for its estate-grown pinot noir—opened a new private tasting space called the Donum Home. An unassuming white structure, it purposely plays second fiddle to the verdant landscape, showcased through a wall of sliding glass doors. The minimalist theme continues throughout the interior, which feels more like a sophisticated, modern home than a tasting room. thedonumestate.com.

> HUDSON RANCH AND VINEYARDS

The winery may be new, but the vines certainly aren't. If you're a chardonnay lover, chances are you've seen the name Hudson Vineyards on more than one of your favorite bottles, for proprietor Lee Hudson has been farming premium Carneros grapes on his historic, 2,000-acre ranch for nearly 40 years. In 2018, he and his wife, Cristina Salas-Porras Hudson, finally opened a series of indoor-outdoor tasting rooms on the property, which is also home to an heirloom vegetable garden, olive trees (the team makes olive oil, too), and farm animals. Visitors sit down in one of three intimate studios for a tasting of the Hudsons' small-production wines, featuring not just chardonnay but a rotating selection of some truly rare varietals, such as aleatico—a dry, aromatic white wine made from a Corsican black muscat grape. hudsonranch.com.

> HYDE VINEYARDS

A legendary pioneer of the Carneros wine region, Larry Hyde started his family farming business in 1979. Inspired by the grand crus of Burgundy, Hyde has since developed quite a reputation as a grower and sells his prized grapes to some of the top wineries in Napa and Sonoma, among them Kistler Vineyards, Paul Hobbs Winery, and Ramey Wine Cellars. The family eventually started to set aside a small amount of fruit for their own label and, in 2017, converted a no-frills Colonial-style home into a winery, where guests get an authentic and memorable taste of Carneros history. hydewines.com.

> MIGRATION

Eager to join in on the Carneros revolution, Duckhorn's Migration brand opened a new visitor center on the historic Stanly Ranch in south Napa at the beginning of 2020. Migration produces pinot noir and chardonnay not just from Carneros but also from other cool-climate growing regions in California, such as Anderson Valley and Russian River Valley. migrationwines.com.

A big factor in Carneros's charm is how seemingly unpopulated it is—how the wineries, homes, and businesses are simply scattered throughout the landscape, creating a much different picture than Napa's crowded Highway 29. Choices for accommodations and dining are limited, but what Carneros lacks in quantity, it makes up for in quality.

Stay // There's only one hotel in Carneros, but it happens to be one of Wine Country's top resorts. Book a newly renovated luxury cottage at the **Carneros Resort and Spa**, and bliss out at the 27-acre property's adults-only hilltop pool and state-of-the-art spa in your downtime.

Eat // The Carneros Resort is also home to two of the region's best restaurants: **Boon Fly Café** and **Farm**. A modernized roadhouse, Boon Fly is best known for its fried chicken, daily brunch Bloody Marys, and famous cinnamon-sugar doughnuts (which you can order ahead of time and pick up on your way out for the day).

As its name suggests, Farm is a sophisticated farm-to-table restaurant, and while you can order à la carte, chef Aaron Meneghelli's seasonal, single-ingredient tasting menu is a real treat. The eatery gets creative at brunch, too: Your table chooses four dishes to share family-style.

For something more casual, soak up all the wine you've been tasting at an authentic Carneros roadhouse. In Sonoma, **Lou's Luncheonette** (formerly known as the Fremont Diner) specializes in comfort food; don't miss the signature fried chicken and biscuits.

If you want to grab coffee, a quick bite, or picnic supplies to enjoy at one of the wineries (some allow this, but call ahead to inquire), stop in at either Napa's **Stanly Lane Smokehouse Deli** or Sonoma's **Carneros Deli**.

