



Dave Johnston and Orson Hall with Wine Parties by Design, LLC, are announcing a 5½-day tour of some of the most prestigious wineries in Napa Valley and Sonoma County. You will fly into San Francisco International Airport on the morning of Saturday, **October 22nd**, and return on Friday, **October 28th**. The tour and flight time total 7 days.

You will spend 2 ½ days in Napa Valley, 1 day visiting the Sonoma Coast including the Redwoods and then the final 2 days of your wine country experience in Sonoma County. You will visit some the best wine venues that the wine country has to offer with diverse experiences and delicious wines. You will also visit culinary venues that will long be remembered.

Our Tour Objectives:

1. Maximize our guest traveler's exposure to preferred wine regions(s)
2. Provide Wine Experiences, not just wine tastings
3. Visit scenic wineries with premium wines
4. Taste the best wines that the wineries have to offer
5. Provide comfortable ground transportation
6. Stay in reasonably-priced lodging with a hot breakfast option
7. Visit the best restaurants in the area
8. Include industry personnel as dinner guests
9. Plan a half/whole "Day of Relief".

Our Travel Guidelines:

1. Retire early the first day (travel day)
2. Stay in one, at the most two lodging facilities
3. No more than 10 guest travelers
4. Travelers to be at the airport curb for pick up by or before the announced deadline
5. Travelers are ready to go at the various specified times each morning.

Let's begin with the details of our tour. The times listed are for the West Coast (Pacific) time zone.

Day One: Travel and Tasting

You fly into **San Francisco International Airport (SFO)**. We ask that you make your own flight arrangements since some travelers will use Frequent Flyer Miles and others have preferred airlines (**the airline costs are not included in the cost of this tour**).




We guarantee that you will instantly feel that relaxed California feeling! Our Sprinter Bus will be leaving SFO by **11:45 AM** en route to Carneros, **so being at the curb in front of your terminal by or before 11:30 AM is essential**. We will stop for a scenic lunch, our first



experience, on our trek to the wine country via the Bay Bridge. Later that afternoon you will relax and enjoy sipping wines in Carneros, then get a feel for downtown Napa with a casual dinner before retiring early. Our first stop:

1:00 - 2:30 PM: Skates on the Bay, Berkeley - Lunch

Lunch at this classy restaurant is across the Bay Bridge in Berkeley. Although it's not located in the heart of the town of Berkeley, it overlooks the Bay with a spectacular view through the large glass windows. We will provide the menu to you prior to the trip so you will be prepared to order once seated.

On the trip from SFO to Napa Valley, we will get to know each other by introducing ourselves and telling a story or two, of course, not  embarrassing.

3:15 - 4:45 PM: Saintsbury, Carneros - Tasting Experience

Saintsbury Winery is absolutely gorgeous and a very authentic, detailed look at a historic Napa Winery. We will be exploring the wines from Saintsbury's select vineyards in Carneros, Anderson Valley, and Sonoma Coast. Our tasting experience will take place either in their Chardonnay cellar or crush pad, depending on weather. We will have a semi-private seated tasting of six wines, led by one of their staff members with the primary focus on Pinot Noir (4) and Chardonnay (2) wines.



Saintsbury Winery was founded by Richard Ward and David Graves in 1981. They met during their graduate studies in Enology at UC Davis while taking a brewing class together. Pinot Noir is really their

specialty and they produce a number of different styled Pinots. In addition, they still produce Chardonnay and, more recently, a cool weather Syrah sourced from neighboring Sonoma County. The winery is named after a professor in England who was famous for writing his "Notes on a Cellar" book and some of his quotes appear on the wine bottles.



5:15 - 6:00 PM: The Oxbow Market - Browse and Shop

You will have an opportunity to browse the Oxbow Public Market, located in the Oxbow District of Napa. It has become the local gathering place for great food and wine in downtown Napa and throughout the Napa Valley. It features a diverse mixture of local food vendors, artisan cafes and an organic produce outlet for local farms. Oxbow Public Market and its artisans and purveyors passionately support the concept of sustainable agriculture and local harvest, promoting a healthy environment, and social and economic equity.



The Market is situated along the Napa River and Napa River Trail, adjacent to the Oxbow Preserve and Oxbow Commons.

6:00 – 7:30 PM: Kitchen Door (Oxbow Market) - Dinner

Beyond the red double doors, Chef Todd Humphries has created an airy space where diners share comfort food - handmade, seasonal, locally sourced and drawing from international cultures. Options include Armenian-style flatbread, Korean-style shortbreads and purple barley risotto. It's a casual, family-style diner experience with reasonably priced dishes.

Seating inside is at large communal tables and booths. A bottle of wine is on us! **Please note:** feel free at any time during the trip to order your own wine at lunch or dinner although it is not included in the tour price.

7:45 - 8:15 PM: Hawthorn Inn & Suites, City of Napa

We will check into our rooms at the Hawthorn Inn & Suites by Wyndham. This Inn is located in the city of Napa, less than two miles from the Oxbow Market.

Each morning they serve a complimentary hot/cold breakfast buffet. They also have an indoor pool and hot tub plus free Wi-Fi Internet access, fitness center, in-room refrigerators, microwaves and wet bar. This is a non-smoking hotel. Get a goodnight's sleep; we have a full day on Sunday!

We will stay at this lodge for the next 3 nights.



Day Two: Napa Valley

A day of unique wine experiences capped off with dinner at a quaint restaurant and we will be joined by a wine industry personality. We will visit many corners of Napa Valley ...

7:30 – 8:00 AM: Hawthorn Inn - Continental / Cold Breakfast

8:30 – 10:00 AM: Calistoga & Napa Valley – Van Tour

The charming town of Calistoga is nestled at the base of the Palisades Mountains and Mount Saint Helena, and at the very north end of the Napa Valley. It is a small town treasure in an otherwise vast and often crowded wine country. You will see some familiar Napa Valley wineries before our first experience of the day.

10:30 AM – 12:45 PM: Conn Creek Winery - Barrel Blending Experience®

With their estate gardens and the Vaca Mountain Range providing picturesque setting, The Barrel Blending Experience® provides a rare opportunity to learn about, taste, and blend wines from the many distinctive regions that make up Napa Valley, one of the most famous and diverse wine growing regions in the world. You play winemaker for a day and take home the fruit of your labors ... literally. It's a tasting tour of Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon from Carneros to Calistoga. Included in the experience:



- A Napa Valley AVA overview
- led by a wine educator
- A guided walk-around barrel tasting
- Instructions on blending techniques and strategies
- A bottle of your custom blend
- A tasting of Conn Creek's Current Releases

Conn Creek Winery was the winner of the International "Best Wine Tourism" award. ,

1:15 PM – 2:15 PM: Soda Canyon - Lunch



Popular Soda Canyon is our stopover for lunch, a full service delicatessen with an Espresso bar. There is outdoor seating with shaded and sunny picnic areas by a creek-side vineyard.

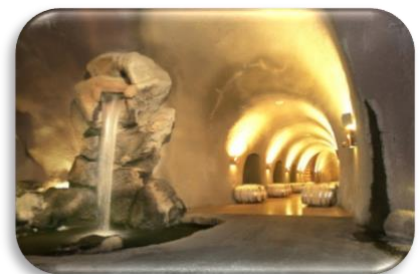
We will have menus for you to select your lunch items (prior to our arrival) to save precious time and meet our schedule.

3:00- 4:15 PM: Jarvis Estate: Tasting Tour

Our visit to Jarvis Estate is a journey, like no other. It's the country's first winery built entirely underground and provides a glimpse into the meticulous steps that go into producing Jarvis wines. Touring the 45,000 square foot cave is a unique experience that includes a visit to the Cuve Gallery, a collection of one dozen massive oak vessels assembled in the cave by French coopers. The underground waterfall near the end of the tour ensures steady cave temperatures and humidity.

The tour concludes with a seated experience in their Tasting Chamber with glass doors, next to the cave's stream, sampling six Jarvis Estate and Reserve Collection wines.

It's recommended that guests wear footwear that is appropriate for walking throughout the cave facility.



4:40 – 6:00 PM: Falcor Winery - Private Tasting

Don't let the location fool you. This winery is in an industrial area, but they have turned it into a charming VIP tasting room where you can view the production area. Laurie Rich, high-energy with a good southern accent, is one of the owners and a **former resident of Atlanta**. She will personally lead our private tasting of 5 award-winning wines accompanied by a cheese plate. Wines will include a Chardonnay, a Bordeaux blend, and 3 Cabernet Sauvignons – all different vintages from 2007 to 2014. It's rumored that their Bordeaux blends are awesome as are their individual varietals, both white and red.



By 2004, Falcor was producing eight different varietals. Focusing on high quality, small lot productions, they produce around 14 diverse, award-winning varietals.

Their 1999 Napa Valley Chardonnay became one of the nation's top scoring Chardonnays, scoring 93 points in Wine Spectator.

7:00 - 9:00 PM: Cindy's Backstreet Kitchen - Dinner

Located in charming downtown St. Helena, Cindy's Backstreet Kitchen combines the sophistication of a supper club with the flair of a speakeasy. Created by Cindy Pawlcyn, the James Beard Award-winning cookbook author, chef-owner of Mustards Grill and co-creator of many renowned Bay Area restaurants, Cindy's Backstreet Kitchen features a menu where the food is cooked from scratch with authentic, highest quality ingredients.



The site of Cindy's Backstreet Kitchen is steeped in wine country history. The historic 1800s building was once a 1920s bordello, a cooperage that supplied barrels and casks for local growers, and in its last called Miramonte, which hosted Association meeting.

incarnation, a restaurant the first Napa Valley Vintner's

We will enter the restaurant through the brick patio, which features several tables for alfresco dining, shaded by a 100-year-old fig tree and warmed by the kitchen's wood-burning oven. We will have dinner in their private dining room, the White Room, joined the owners of William Cole Vineyards, William and Jane Ballentine. Orson **loves** their Cabernet Sauvignon Wines. 😊

9:30 PM: Hawthorn Inn & Suites, City of Napa

Sleep well...we have another full day Monday on Spring Mountain!

Day Three: Spring Mountain District

You will visit three unique wineries today with delicious varietals and beautiful views of the valley and vineyards. One has a famous Victorian house pictured in a television series from the 80's while another was rated the top winery by our travelers on our last tour.

8:00 – 9:00 AM: Hawthorn Inn – Continental  / Cold Breakfast



9:15 AM: Travel to the Spring Mountain District

10:00 AM - Noon: Spring Mountain Vineyard - Tour and Seated Victorian House Tasting

The new Spring Mountain Vineyard was once three separate properties, each with its own vineyard and winery: Spring Mountain Vineyards (Miravalle), Chateau Chevalier (Chevalier), and Draper Vineyards (La Perla).



Adjoining to the north of the Beringer vineyard was a Frenchman, Fortune Chevalier, whose stone winery, Chateau Chevalier, was making wine in 1891. And finally, next door to Chevalier was Tiburcio Parrott who grew olives, citrus and grapes. Parrott built a grand home on the estate and named it Miravalle. On the first landing of his wide staircase he put the famous Parrot window, which later in the 1980s, Lorimar, in its TV production of **Falcon Crest**, insisted on calling a falcon. It is now referred to as the *Victorian House*.



Valli Ferrell, Public Relations Director and our guest at this evening's dinner, will provide you with a tour of the property and caves before Lindsay McArdle provides you with a seated tasting in the Victorian House. The travelers on our last tour rated Spring Mountain Vineyards as one of their top three experiences.

12:15 – 12:50 PM: Old Summit Winery Picnic - Lunch

You will select our lunch items prior to the tour and the driver will pick up our orders at Sunshine Food in St. Helena during your experience at Spring Mountain Vineyards. The driver will pick you up at Spring Mountain and take you to Pride Mountain's Old Summit Winery Picnic area.



It's a relaxing vineyard environment with picnic tables and a swing.

1:00 – 2:30 PM: Pride Mountain Vineyards – Progressive Tasting with a Cave Walk

This winery is a 235-acre estate with a wooden-beamed, modest-sized winery that blends smoothly into its mountainous surroundings and California heritage. They have over 23,000 square feet of subterranean storage that winds naturally under the hillside, opening out onto a terrace overlooking the vineyards and the scenic northern Napa Valley.



Pride's staff will provide you with a beautiful private room for your tasting experience, led by a member of their wine education team providing an in-depth discussion about the winery and wines. You will have the opportunity to taste their currently available white wines prior to taking a cave tour where you will taste their red wines during

this unique tour. Pride Mountain Vineyards was **rated the number one experience** by the travelers on our last tour.

2:45 – 3:30 PM: Tour of Spring Mountain District

Spring Mountain District has some beautiful views of Napa Valley. We will stop at various places for you to take in the scenery and relax before our final experience of the day.

4:00 – 5:15 PM: Keenan Winery - Flight of Current Releases with Paired Artesian Cheeses



Robert Keenan purchased 180 acres in the Spring Mountain District in 1974 located on the eastern slope of the Mayacamas mountain range. He built a new winery using the existing stonewalls from the old Conradi winery building, and celebrated Keenan Winery's first harvest there in 1977. The Napa Valley Vintners have recognized Keenan as a "green" winery, which they announce on our back labels: Solar Powered and Sustainably Farmed. 90% of their wines are reds and they have some real standouts. Keenan has a



reputation for producing superb wines, matched also by their customer service.

We will have a seated tasting with 5-6 of their latest released wines paired with artesian cheeses.

6:00 – 8:30 PM: Press Restaurant - Dinner

Our previous tour groups rated Press as their favorite restaurant. It has a comfortable vineyard setting including indoor and outdoor seating with large fireplaces, and a hand-crafted walnut bar framed by twin wine towers showing their extensive Napa Valley-only wine collection. Every day their chef selects the finest seasonal produce and highest quality cuts of meat, seafood and poultry available. What cannot be culled from their two private gardens is sourced from local farmers, markets, and neighboring purveyors. We will have our own custom menu for this dinner and dine in their garden.



Joining us as our guests for dinner are **Tom and Valli Ferrell**. Tom is a wine industry veteran, a well-known winemaker at Inglenook, past President of Franciscan, Sterling Vineyards and Spring Mountain Vineyards (twice). He is currently the Executive Director of the Spring Mountain District Association.

Valli, who you met earlier in the day, has been part of the Spring Mountain Vineyard staff since 1992 and has

contributed to the sales and marketing efforts of several wineries, including Inglenook, Geysers Peak, William Hill and Stag's Leap Wine Cellars. She is the author of *Dining In Napa Valley*, a cookbook celebrating Napa Valley's best restaurants. Valli is currently Director of Public Relations for Spring Mountain Vineyard.



9:00 PM: Hawthorn Inn & Suites, City of Napa

Day 4





Day 6

Day 7: Return to San Francisco Int'l Airport

7:30 – 8:15 AM: Continental Breakfast

8:00 - 8:30 AM Load the Sprinter Vehicle

We ask that all travelers be ready by 8:15 AM to load up the Sprinter Vehicle so we can depart on time.

8:30 – 10:30 AM Return trip to San Francisco International Airport

Book return flights to Atlanta no earlier than noon.

We hope that you enjoyed California Napa Valley Wine Experience sponsored by **Wine Tours by Design!**

What's Included in the Price:

- All Local Transportation at our destination
- Accommodations for Six (6) Nights (single or double occupancy as specified by traveler)
- All meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner)
- All Tastings and Tour fees
- Visits by wine Industry personnel at selected meals
- Tour Guides/Drivers.

What's not Included:

- Airfare
- Travel and Baggage Insurance
- All items of a strictly personal nature
- Alcoholic beverages at meals (unless stated that it's included as announced by your sponsors)
- Personal wine purchases
- Extra room charges such as movies and room service.