

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LIFE

WHERE TO EAT + STAY + PLAY

Palm Springs

Surround Yourself with Sunshine



A VISITOR'S GUIDE
TO THE DESERT

DINING
SHOPPING
OUTDOOR FUN

MARCH 2021

\$5.95US

03 >



0 71486 02728 7

www.SoCalLifeMag.com

2021
MODERNISM
WEEK

Departments



40.



76.



48.

40. BUBBLES & BREWS
Santa Barbara Country Wine Trip
 Two Hours North Of LA - But A World Away
By Janine Goldberg

48. THE GOURMAND
Impress Your Valentine With A Takeout Meal At Home
 6 New Places Worthy Of Ordering In This Valentine's Day
By Melissa Curtin

52. OFF THE BEATEN PATH
Carlsbad - San Diego's Pretty Playground
By Monique Reidy

FEATURE

82. ALL IN FOR A BETTER YOUTH SPORTS CULTURE
By Christopher Kalil

66.



In Every Issue

10. LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER / EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Monique Reidy

THE WEEKENDER

58. Redefining Luxury
LOTTE HOTEL SEATTLE
By Monique Reidy

66. A Relaxing Refuge
THE PHOENICIAN SCOTTSDALE
By Monique Reidy

72. Creature Comforts
 Big-sky Country Meets Golden State Gourmet At PAWS UP — The Luxury Montana Resort

Attracting California's Top Culinary Talent
By Amelia Mularz

76. Seaside Elegance In Riviera Nayarit
CONRAD PUNTA DE MITA
By Monique Reidy



72.

Santa Barbara County Wine Trip

Two Hours North Of LA – But A World Away

"West of France ... Just North of L.A." might be a tag line, but with more than 275 wineries in Santa Barbara County, it's a description of this vast wine-making mecca. This region is primarily known for its award-winning Pinot Noirs and Chardonnays thanks to its climate and rich soil, but Syrah, Sauvignon Blanc, Cabernet Sauvignon and more are also produced here. The 2004 movie "Sideways" propelled the Santa Barbara area into the renowned winemaking limelight. Within this region are many charming towns, including Santa Ynez and Los Alamos, all where a perfect weekend wine escape can be enjoyed. Additionally, Santa Maria Valley is worth exploring, as is Los Olivos, which has unique shops and is peppered with tasting rooms on every block and around every corner. You'll want to book a room at the Fess Parker Wine Country Inn & Spa so that you don't need to get in your car and drive. Renovated in 2012, this 19-room Inn is a Preferred Boutique property. Located adjacent to the hotel, the food at Nella Kitchen and Bar rivals that of top restaurants in Los Angeles.

BY JANINE GOLDBERG

There are more than 70 different wine grape varieties grown in this region, offering one of the most diverse grape-growing areas in the world. **Here are a few of our favorite wineries and tasting rooms to help you sample a few!**



CAMBRIAWINES.COM

SOCALIFE.COM 41 MARCH 2021

LOCATION:	SANTA MARIA (off famed Foxen Trail)	WWW.CAMBRIAWINES.COM
-----------	--	-----------------------------

CAMBRIA ESTATE WINERY

➔ Part of Jackson Family Wines, Cambria is family owned and sustainably farmed, including being a SIP sustainably certified winery, a rigorous process and strict rules showing dedication to people, the planet and prosperity. Females rule the roost here. Owner/founder Barbara Banke and family proprietors Katie and Julia Jackson all grew up among these vines. Foremost they are a team of farmers (with more than 200 years of experience) who, under the direction of winemaker Jill Russell, allow the nuances of the land to create award winning wines. Enjoy a tasting flight of single vineyard estate Pinot Noir and Chardonnay while you sit on an Adirondack chair situated on top of the Cambria Knoll. Guests are treated like family from the moment they step into the tasting room.

FUN FACT: Average tenure of staff is 18 years. 🐾



FOOD AND WINE

MICHAEL STEPHENS

LOCATION:	IN THE HEART OF SANTA MARIA VALLEY	WWW.PRESQUILEWINE.COM
-----------	---	------------------------------

PRESQU'ILE

(pronounced press-KEEL)

➔ This small, multi-generational family-owned collaboration makes exceptional Pinot Noir, Syrah, Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc which are sustainably certified. You can easily spend a few hours here at Presqu'ile as it houses a small amphitheatre, a bocci ball court, ping pong, corn hole and more. Or just sit outside on the expansive porch area and take in the spectacular views. All family members are involved here. You'll want to be sure to order the wine and food pairing. Seasonal Mezza Platters are prepared by the chef and then paired with Presqu'ile's wines. Winemaker Dieter Cronje does as many as 25 Pinot Noir fermentations each vintage just to make five Pinot Noirs. Perched upon a hill, the property has a modern interior with glass all around for taking in the views from the inside. The food is amazing and there is plenty of outdoor seating and room for private dinners.

FUN FACT: The property is built on a former gladiola farm.



LENABRITTPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

SOCALIFE.COM 48 MARCH 2021

LOCATION:	LOS OLIVOS	WWW.CARHARTTVINEYARD.COM
-----------	-------------------	---------------------------------

CARHARTT

➤ This label is family owned and directed by Mike and Brooke Carhartt. Mike grew up raising cattle and horses and still farms. His wife Brooke and their 32-year-old son Chase are co-wine makers. Don't be fooled by his age, Chase travels the world making wines in different countries, bringing back fresh ideas and methodology to Carhartt. Chase's love of what he does is contagious and he's willing to take risks with the winemaking process, particularly with his newer label, Carhartt Venture. The Carhartt family cares about their community and the farming component as well. There's a down-to-earth ambiance here with the locals coming to hang out and listen to music. The expansive outdoor space in the back of the tasting room brings all ages (and dogs) together to listen to music, picnic, and enjoy the wines. They produce Sauvignon Blanc, Mourvedre, Pinot Noir, Syrah, Grenache and Viognier.

FUN FACT: Chase is a 5th generation Carhartt. 🐾



LOCATION:	LOS OLIVOS	WWW.BREWERCLIFTON.COM
-----------	-------------------	------------------------------

BREWER CLIFTON

➔ Also part of the Jackson Family portfolio, Brewer-Clifton was started by two winemakers with a \$12,000 investment. Its talented winemaker, Greg Brewer, is part of the production process at Brewer-Clifton from vineyard to market. Brewer and original business partner Steve Clifton started Brewer-Clifton more than 20 years ago. Focusing on the Burgundian roots of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, the wines pay respect to France while creating a uniquely Californian style. The tasting room is modern, minimalistic and sleek. Their wines embrace the power, pedigree and richness of the Santa Rita Hills, the appellation Brewer helped to establish, and Brewer's Pinot Noirs are highly sought after. The minimalist approach and smart attention to detail in the tasting room carries through to the wines, which are produced purposefully and intentionally. A private tasting room is available.

FUN FACT: Winemaker Greg Brewer was recently named 2020 Winemaker of the Year by Wine Enthusiast. 🍷



MARCH 2021 46 SOCALLIFE.COM

HEATHER DAENITZ/CRAFT & CLUSTER & EPIPHANY WINE CO.

LOCATION:	LOS OLIVOS	WWW.EPIPHANYWINECO.COM
-----------	-------------------	-------------------------------

EPIPHANY

➔ A Rhone-focused winemaking label, Epiphany was founded by Eli Parker. It produces some of the finest Rhone-based varietals in the region, now under the winemaking prowess of Blair Fox. From Sauvignon Blanc, to sparkling wine to Cabernet Sauvignon, there is something here for every wine lover. They even have a bubbly tasting room on property. Feel at home sitting out in one of the seating areas on the front lawn and be prepared to stay and relax – the wines are that good and there’s plenty of room to spread out at the tables.

FUN FACT: Epiphany was originally intended to be a creative outlet for the winemaking son of Fess Parker (aka Davey Crockett).

And to add to the winemaking valor of the region, Santa Barbara County has more female wine makers than anywhere else in the country. It’s worth a visit just to check out the innovative personalities behind the great wines of the region. ❖