



Let's Make Dallas Even Better

What To Drink Now: Sonoma County **Favorable wines from one of the largest wine regions in the country.**

By Hayley Hamilton Cogill

California's Sonoma County boasts 17 American Viticultural Areas. They range in size from 150 planted acres of vines in Rock Pile to 15,000 in Russian River. The entire area covers 1,768 square miles. More than 60 grape varieties are grown in Sonoma, and hopefully, there's something for every wine lover. Here are a few I find noteworthy. Note: A few were sent for editorial consideration.

There are two consumer events in Sonoma this April. The inaugural Signature Sonoma Valley will take place April 7 and 8. It's billed as an immersive event, diving into the vineyards, wines, and pairings of Sonoma Valley, also known as "Valley of the Moon." Dry Creek Valley, with 10,000 acres under vine, hosts its 28th annual Dry Creek Passport Weekend from April 28-30. More than 45 wineries will open their doors for visitors to pair wines with local Sonoma fare.



Dutcher Crossing specializes in juicy, peppery Zinfandel, and black fruit-filled Cabernet. Both are delicious, but their Sonoma County Sauvignon Blanc is a special find. With 90 percent of the fruit coming from Russian River, and partially barrel fermented using native yeasts, the textured wine highlights honey, stone fruit, and lime leaf (\$27).



If you are a robust reds fan, Dry Creek Valley is your region. Their Cabernet Sauvignon and Zinfandel wines are big, juicy, and spicy with bold tannins. Alcohol levels can be high, as hot, dry Sonoma summers produce fruit with a high sugar content. Mauritsen, Sbragia, and Lambert Bridge highlight a sense of place in their peppery, blackberry jam-filled Zinfandels, with Dry Creek Vineyard, Ferrari-Carano, and Pedroncelli shining with Cabernet and Merlot wines.

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