

## Sonoma County, California

Sonoma County has 1,800 vineyard owners and more than 350 wineries that work together to produce a variety of world-class wines.

The county is home to 13 American Viticulture Areas (AVAs) or, simply put, wine regions — the areas where particular wine varieties grow and thrive.

Each possesses a distinct combination of soils, climate and wine varieties unique to the region. This ranges from cool climate thriving Pinot Noir and Chardonnay to warmer weather favorites such as Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Zinfandel and more. Much more.

And what is great wine without great food? In Sonoma County you'll find local artisans producing everything from award-winning cheeses to Muscovy duck, from Pacific oysters to farm-fresh produce and fruits. Our farmers fill the chefs' shopping baskets for *California Cuisine* in Northern California.

Sonoma County is where great wine and food, family and friends converge.

Please enjoy your Sonoma County journey.

*Note: The 13th Sonoma County region (not shown) is Northern Sonoma. It combines Dry Creek Valley, Alexander Valley, Knights Valley, Chalk Hill, Russian River Valley and Green Valley.*

TOTAL LAND ACRES  
1,050,000

VINEYARD ACRES  
60,302

NUMBER OF WINERIES  
350

NO. OF GROWERS  
1,800



## Bennett Valley

Located at the virtual mid-point of Sonoma County, Bennett Valley is a bucolic snapshot of the past. With herds of cows lowing through verdant pastures,

horses trotting in the impossibly pastoral environs, and lavender brightening the landscape practically everywhere you look, this benign tranquility belies the renewed energy placed on winegrape growing and winemaking.

The valley's volcanic-laced soils are the product of ancient eruptions from three nearby peaks — Sonoma Mountain to the south, Taylor Mountain

to the west and Bennett Peak to the east. The breakdown of volcanic lava and ash produces benchland soils on mostly well-drained slopes. And Mother Nature cooperates with morning fog filtering through Crane Canyon, allowing the grapes to retain their natural acidity.

First settled by James Bennett in 1849, Bennett Valley also welcomed the arrivals of John Shackleford Taylor and Issac De Turk, founder of Belle Mount Winery, shortly thereafter. Today eight wineries draw from the region's vineyards. Merlot leads the way with half the plantings, followed by Chardonnay, Syrah and Pinot Noir.

TOTAL LAND ACRES  
8,700

VINEYARD ACRES  
650

NUMBER OF WINERIES  
8

NO. OF GROWERS  
40

DAILY WEATHER TRENDS  
(april–october)

MORNING  
cool/fog

AFTERNOON  
warm

EVENING  
cool

