

Napa Valley Wine Trips for Every Budget

You can plan a fantastic California getaway by spending a lot — or a lot less

by Jim Byers, AARP, February 28, 2020 | Comments: 0



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It's easy to spend big bucks on a fabulous trip to California's Napa Valley, known for its pricey restaurants, luxury boutique hotels and high-end wineries. But, with a little planning, travelers on a stricter budget can have just as much fun visiting one of the globe's most wonderful wine destinations.

Where to taste wine, dine and sleep. Choosing among the huge range of wineries, restaurants and hotels in Napa can feel overwhelming. Here are some suggestions for three different budgets.

Where to sip

High-end: Newton Vineyard is a private winery that sits at the top of a steep, winding road on the west side of the valley. You'll find formal English gardens and a bright red phone booth. (Peter Newton, who founded the winery back in 1977, was an Englishman.) It's known for its elegant, not overly oaky chardonnay and cabernet sauvignon, as well as its magnificent setting. The cheapest tour and tasting, Newton Discovery, is \$75. The Single Vineyard Immersion tour and tasting costs \$125, while the Newton Vineyard Exploration (May to October) includes a ride to the top of a 1,600-foot hill in a deluxe utility vehicle for a private tasting (\$250 per person).

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