



## ULTIMATE NAPA WINE TOUR

The Iconic Estates of the Napa Valley

**MARCH 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> 2025**

— Hosted by Philip Goodband MW —

**US \$4,995** per person

Join us for the ultimate tour of a selection of Napa Valley’s iconic estate. From the comfort of the hotel of your choosing, you will visit acclaimed wineries and enjoy decadent meals at the top wineries and restaurants.

Each day includes visits and tastings at some of the most famous wineries in Napa, whose wines often sell for hundreds of dollars per bottle in restaurants. We are well received by the estates who provide insight into the region, and their own nuanced approach to viticulture and winemaking. May is a perfect time of year, typically warm and sunny, but not too hot and before the busy tourist season.

### COME AND DISCOVER

*This is a sample itinerary. The final itinerary should be almost identical once the last wineries confirm.*

Learn about the **history** of Napa at key points during the last 150 years with visits to the historic **Beaulieu**, a luxurious 3-course lunch at **Beringer** and a specialty tasting at **Inglenook**. We complete our first day with a spectacular dinner at the Michelin-Star rated **PRESS** restaurant.

Discover the classics of Napa with a tour and tasting at **Stag’s Leap Wine Cellars**, a beautiful pairing lunch at **Chateau Montelena**, and a visit to **Silver Oak** for a vertical tasting.

Explore architectural wonders and wineries shaped by **outside investors** at **Opus One**, an impeccable lunch at **Dariouh**, followed by **Spring Mountain** for a journey through the decades.

Learn about the **cult wines** with a special visit to **Aaron Pott’s** winery where you will also taste a selection of Cult Cabernets including **Screaming Eagle**. This day of wonder is topped off by an incredibly opulent winemakers’ dinner at **Auberge du Soleil**, a Michelin-starred restaurant overlooking the vineyards.



**FINE VINTAGE**

BY JAMES CLUER MW

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## YOUR HOST

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### PHILIP GOODBAND MW

You will be hosted by Philip Goodband MW, a true wine professional, Vintners Scholar, and former Chairman of the Institute of Masters of Wine. His wine business interests covering four decades have taken him around the globe, resulting in a unique blend of knowledge and experience which he loves to share.

His tasting skills are put to good use as The Chair of Judges at the International Wine and Spirit Competition and through his international consultancy work, which has brought him many awards and personal honours. Philip served as wine adviser to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother for over a decade.

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## PRICE

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### US \$4,995 per person

The price includes all winery visits and tastings, all meals mentioned in the itinerary, superb wines at meals, local transport, and taxes & gratuities. Transportation to and from Napa, accommodations, items of a personal nature, and travel insurance are not included. We recommend that you contact your travel agent to arrange travel insurance.

Deposit at booking: \$250 non-refundable administration booking fee.

120 days from start: Remaining deposit (plus single supplement if applicable).



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[www.FineVintageLtd.com](http://www.FineVintageLtd.com)

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## ITINERARY | DAY 1

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*This is a sample itinerary. The final itinerary should be almost identical once the last wineries confirm.*

### THURSDAY, MARCH 13<sup>TH</sup> – THE HISTORY OF NAPA

You will need to make your own way to Napa, about 90 minutes from San Francisco, and arrange your own accommodation. We will meet at the Napa River Inn hotel in downtown Napa at 10:00 am. From there, we will promptly depart for our first visit.

- Napa River Inn,  
500 Main Street, Napa, CA ([www.napariverinn.com](http://www.napariverinn.com) 707-251-8500)

### BEAULIEU

BV, as it is known, is considered to be one of the pioneers of fine wine in the Napa Valley. The tale begins in 1900 when George de Latour's wife spotted the land that would become their original Rutherford vineyard with the vision of making Napa Valley wines that would rival those of his native France. Latour had truly remarkable foresight. He was the first nationwide supplier of altar wines for Catholic churches across America and flourished under a special warrant during Prohibition during which they sold wines in startling quantities. We are welcomed through their Victorian doors to taste through their spectacular wines, including their flagship, Georges de Latour. [www.bvwines.com](http://www.bvwines.com)

### BERINGER

Founded in 1876 Beringer is the oldest continuously operating winery in Napa. It is known for establishing many 'firsts' as leaders in the wine industry. They were one of the first gravity fed facilities and among the first to operate using hand-dug caves and cellars. They were the first to give public tours in 1934, starting a Napa Valley hospitality tradition. They are also the first and only winery to have both a red and a white wine named #1 Wine of the Year by Wine Spectator, as well as being the first winery to have a white wine crowned #1. We will explore their legacy, touring through their winery and caves, before indulging in a 3-course lunch with their flagship wines to pair. [www.beringer.com](http://www.beringer.com)

### INGLENOOK

Started by Gustav Neibaum in 1879, this magnificent estate quickly won local and international acclaim, being served to the American President as far back as 1891. By the mid 1900s, John Daniel, the owner and Gustav's grandnephew, had established it as *THE* reference point for fine Cabernet Sauvignon. John Daniel was the Director of the Wine Institute until 1969 and the importance of his role can never be exaggerated in the history of Napa. Francis Ford Coppola has spent 40 years meticulously restoring the property and continuously elevating every aspect of the wine quality and brand. The wines are legendary. You will sample the flagship Rubicon wine and then enjoy 4 library vintages after you tour the cellars and hear the story first-hand. [www.inglenook.com](http://www.inglenook.com)

### PRESS

To conclude your first day in Napa, we have a grand 5-course dinner with exclusive pairings at the Michelin-starred restaurant, PRESS. Celebrated around Napa Valley, PRESS is a favourite place for winemakers because of the massive cellar including many old vintages. [www.pressnapavalley.com](http://www.pressnapavalley.com)



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## ITINERARY | DAY 2

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### FRIDAY, MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup> – THE CLASSICS OF NAPA : THE JUDGEMENT OF PARIS

#### 10.00 am – Meet & Depart

Meet in the lobby of the Napa River Inn for a prompt departure for our day of visiting the icons from the Judgement of Paris and more.

#### STAG'S LEAP WINE CELLARS

Our day begins with a visit to Stag's Leap Wine Cellars. Stag's Leap became one of Napa's most famous estates after winning the famed Judgement of Paris in 1976. Their single-vineyard SLV, Cask 23 and Fay Cabernets are considered classics, and their Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, and red blends are world class as well. The underground cellars are spectacular, and the attention to detail in fine winemaking from single vineyards is very impressive. We will also learn about the terroir of the Stags Leap AVA. [www.cask23.com](http://www.cask23.com)

#### CHATEAU MONTELENA

Tucked away just north of the quaint little town of Calistoga, Montelena is a classic. The Chardonnay won "Best Chardonnay" at the famous 1976 Paris tasting. The winery makes stunning Cabernet Sauvignon too. The visit will take us behind the scenes to see where the magic happens, before we sit down to a beautiful pairing lunch. The fine wine will flow! [www.montelena.com](http://www.montelena.com)

#### SILVER OAK

Once the likes of Stag's Leap Wine Cellars and Montelena had established Napa as a producer of ultra fine wine, the door was open for wineries like Silver Oak to create the excitement that surrounds Napa today. In the 1990s, Silver Oak was a trend setter because their wines were in such high demand that customers were limited to 2 bottles per person and almost the entire production was sold out on release day. The winery is also quite unique as they use premium American oak, even using their own forest. We will learn all about their unique barrel aging, as well as the operations of a Napa icon, before enjoying a vertical of their flagship Cabernet Sauvignon. [www.silveroak.com](http://www.silveroak.com)

We will return to the Napa River Inn by 6 pm for a free evening.



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## ITINERARY | DAY 3

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### SATURDAY, MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup> – THE INVESTORS AND CULT CLASSICS

#### 10.00 am – Depart Hotel

Meet in the lobby of the Napa River Inn to depart for our day, exploring the estates that showcase the work of outside investors, often stunning architectural wineries, that are both icons and hidden gems. We also learn about and taste some of the cult wines including Screaming Eagle, the most expensive wine in Napa.

#### OPUS ONE

A joint venture between Robert Mondavi and Mouton Rothschild, Opus One is one of the most important wineries in the world. It is also an architectural wonder. We began the day here, touring their stunning state-of-the-art cellars, all before an exclusive tasting of their acclaimed wines. We will see the latest in hi-tech winemaking and learn about the importance of focusing on making one single wine. [www.opusonewinery.com](http://www.opusonewinery.com)

#### DARIOUSH

Our day continues with a luxurious visit to Darioush, one of the most architecturally stunning wineries in Napa. This estate exemplifies modern Napa. All of the stone was imported from Iran, the birthplace of owner Darioush Khaledi. We will tour the unique architecture of this landmark, before a lovely lunch with a host of wines, enjoying the exceptional hospitality Darioush is renowned for. [www.darioush.com](http://www.darioush.com)

#### SPRING MOUNTAIN

This hidden gem, and one of my favourite wineries in Napa. In the Spring Mountain AVA you will find a huge estate that is more than 800 acres, sprawling across the hillsides. But with only a fraction of the property planted to vineyards, and because of the extremely low yields, the winery is a small producer. The previous owner, a Swiss banker, was fixated on sustainability that the new owners still use and are taking to new levels. We will learn about the unique style of hillside-grown Cabernet and visit their cellars. The buildings may be familiar to those who watched Falcon Crest, which was filmed here. It is truly a special experience. We will taste their flagship wine, spanning the decades. [www.springmtn.com](http://www.springmtn.com)

#### POTT'S WINE & SCREAMING EAGLE

Aaron Pott is one of Napa's leading Consultant Winemakers and produces highly sought-after Napa small-batch cult wines. He was the winemaker who collaborated with me to produce the 98-point Sigma Cabernet. He invites us to taste his wines and learn about the cult wines of Napa, including a taste of Screaming Eagle, THE cult wine of Napa that sells for more than \$3,000 per bottle. [www.pottwine.com](http://www.pottwine.com) [www.screamingeagle.com](http://www.screamingeagle.com)

#### AUBERGE DU SOLEIL

The tour finishes with one final dinner, a grand finale at a Michelin-starred restaurant overlooking the vineyards of Rutherford. We will have other vintners join us for this multi-course winemakers' dinner. <https://aubergeresorts.com/aubergedusoleil/dine/>

