

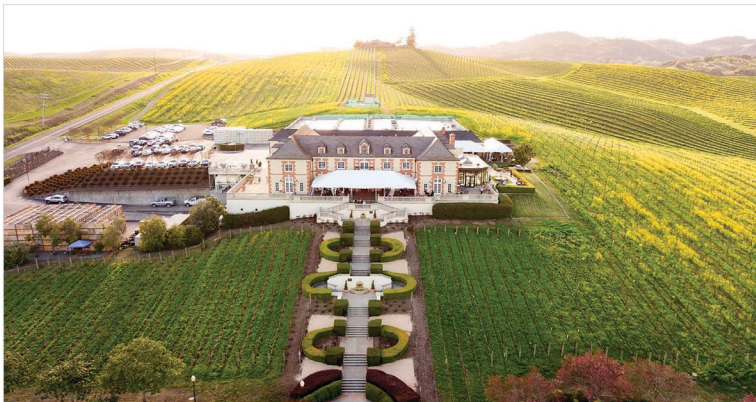
# San Francisco Chronicle

## TOP 25 WINERIES

*Spring 2021: Best Bay Area Wineries to Visit*

By **Esther Mobley** | March 31, 2021

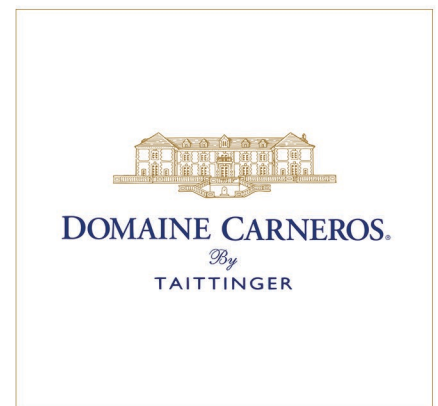
Going wine tasting is one of the great Bay Area pastimes. Visiting a winery here is a chance to experience so many of the features that make this region special: the land's natural beauty, a rich tradition of artisanal craftsmanship and a deep, abiding love for eating and drinking deliciously. This list represents our favorite 25 wineries in the Bay Area to visit right now. The wineries here produce excellent bottles, of course, but we've also chosen them for the experiences they offer — whether that involves striking scenery, succulent food pairings or, ever more important, thoughtful safety precautions.



### DOMAINE CARNEROS

This grand, Champagne-inspired chateau is a tourist destination for a reason.

The ornate chateau that is Domaine Carneros certainly stands out among the rolling hills of Napa's Carneros region. If it looks very French, that's because it is: Its owners also own Taittinger, the famous Champagne house, and you may feel like you're in a French period-piece movie when you're sipping Domaine Carneros' sparkling wines above its geometric, manicured hedges. You can't tour the interior of the chateau for now, but the view is better from the outdoor terraces anyway; tents provide shelter on chilly days. Don't come here if you're seeking an intimate, off-the-beaten path experience. Domaine Carneros is busy and bustling, and can be a lot of fun if you're seeking that energy. There are regular, non-bubbly Pinot Noirs available to taste — and if that's your jam, you can choose to taste an entire flight of different Pinots — but the pro move here is going for one of the all-sparkling tasting flights. In case you arrive hungry, caviar, charcuterie, cheese and smoked fish platters are also available.



1240 Duhig Rd., Napa | Tasting fee: \$40 | 707-257-0101 | [domainecarneros.com](http://domainecarneros.com)

