



SANTA BARBARA WINE COUNTRY

TOURING GUIDE

2017–2018

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DISCOVER SIX UNIQUE WINEGROWING AREAS

Though known as a scenic beachside resort, Santa Barbara County also encompasses one of the top wine regions in the world. The beaches are backed by an unusual mountain configuration with an east-west orientation forming valleys that open directly to the Pacific Ocean. It is the longest east-west traverse from the Aleutian Islands to Tierra Del Fuego.

This unique topography allows the inland flow of fog and ocean breezes to shape one of the coolest winegrowing regions in California and create an ideal environment for the cultivation of classic grape varieties. The growing season here is considerably longer than other wine producing areas, meaning the fruit has an unusually long "hang time" on the vine. This makes for world class wines of distinctive character.

Within Santa Barbara County there are six federally recognized American Viticultural Areas (AVA): Santa Maria Valley, Santa Ynez Valley, Sta. Rita Hills, Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara, Ballard Canyon, and Los Olivos District.

SANTA MARIA VALLEY

The often foggy and windswept Santa Maria Valley is the northern most appellation in Santa Barbara County. The region's first officially approved American Viticultural Area (AVA) enjoys extremely complex soil conditions and diverse microclimates. Chardonnay and Pinot Noir are two varieties which especially benefit from the ocean's influence, and are the flagship wines of this appellation.



SANTA MARIA VALLEY
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY



SANTA YNEZ VALLEY
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY



BALLARD CANYON
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY



STA. RITA HILLS
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY



HAPPY CANYON
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY



LOS OLIVOS DISTRICT
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY