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PREMIUM



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Foodie heaven

These Napa wineries are offering a total culinary experience

BY JENNY PETERS

For decades, Napa Valley perfected a simple formula as one of the world's premier wine destinations: Come taste wine, buy a few bottles, then head to the next winery.

But as consumer habits and the wine industry change, wineries are rethinking what a visit should be.

Today, the most ambitious producers aren't simply giving a good pour. They're creating food-and-wine experiences designed to engage visitors with a meal, browsing gourmet markets or discovering beautifully designed kitchens. Wine is the centerpiece of a larger lifestyle.

And few places illustrate that better than Hestan Napa.

Hestan has been a familiar name in Napa Valley wine since 2005, when Stanley and Helen Cheng released their first Cabernets, the result of the former cattle ranch they bought in 1996 on the southeastern slopes of the valley where they began planting grapes. In 2013, they cemented their presence in the area, opening a tasting "salon" in Yountville.

Meanwhile, from 2013 to 2018, Stanley Cheng launched four companies — Hestan Commercial, Hestan Outdoor, Hestan Culinary and Hestan Indoor — and turned all four into award-winning large kitchen appliance and Italian-made cookware manufacturers. Known for their ultra-cool, design-forward looks and impeccable quality, the



COURTESY V. SATTUI, PHOTO BY JOANNA SALAZAR



Hestan name became an in-the-know brand for serious chefs and wine lovers.

But the Chengs had an even bigger vision, realized in late 2025 with the opening of Hestan Napa.

Find this wave of the future "retail experience" right on Main Street in Napa, where Hestan brings everything together for the first time. Enter the shop and you'll see appliances like a fire-engine red (they call the color "matador") gas range to die for, gleaming pots and pans with a lifetime guarantee and more dazzling cooking necessities. Keep going and the wine bar comes into view, stocked with Hestan's various wine brands (Hestan, Stephanie, Meyer, Vincent Christopher) as well as other "guest wineries" offered by the glass.

Finally, have a seat in the restaurant, where Executive Chef Mark Dommen serves up seasonal dishes that include grilled California endive, Dungeness crab and pan-seared red snapper. A Napa local, Dommen held a Michelin

star for five years at San Francisco's One Market restaurant, and here at Hestan he makes sure to perfectly pair his offerings with the brand's acclaimed wine choices.

A few miles north in St. Helena, another Napa institution is embracing the same philosophy through a different lens. Head up Route 29 to find V. Sattui Winery's latest transformation.

V. Sattui Winery has been a family owned Napa Valley mainstay since 1976, with roots going back to family winemaking in San Francisco since the 1880s. Producing highly rated Cabernet Sauvignons and award-winning whites including Dry Rieslings and Chardonnays over the years, V. Sattui only sells its wine at the winery or via their website, which may be why their brand is less familiar than other Napa classics.

And now the winery is making waves in St. Helena, recently celebrating 50 years in Napa with the 2026 opening of its renovated (and massive)



COURTESY V. SATTUI, PHOTO BY JOANNA SALAZAR



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Mercado del Gusto.

Part tasting room, part incredible Italian market complete with a wall of cheeses, to-die-for cured meats, insane chocolate desserts and countless other wonderful tastes and cooking delights is truly a food-lover's dream. Belly up to the tasting bar and do some of V. Sattui's

gorgeous wine-and-food pairings, or shop for your own favorites and have a feast in their beautiful picnic garden just outside the mercado.

So, on your next trip to

Napa, forget about racing from tasting room to tasting room. It's about settling in, enjoying a remarkable meal, and letting wine become part of a total culinary experience.

MORE INFO

Hestan Napa

:: hestannapa.com

V. Sattui Winery

:: vsattui.com

Visit Napa Valley

:: visitnapavalley.com



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