

Marin



Home **RENOVATION**

How Much Will Your
Remodel Cost?



THINK BIG, LIVE SMALL
Minimalist Local Living

COOKING WITH BEER
Recipes With Ale, Lager,
Lambic and Stout

APRIL 2016



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2



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Pack Up

Head to wine country this month for new activities that will delight your palate and senses. **M.T.**

1 Taste Tour

The gourmet food and wine tour Savor Healdsburg has recently added a few new spots to its three-and-a-half-hour guided walking tour. "In 2016 guests will enjoy new menu items such as Portuguese vino verde paired with chouriço-crust day boat scallops at Cafe Lucia, a dish inspired by the island where Lucia's family is from," says tour organizer Tammy Gass. Other stops include SHED, Gustafson Family Vineyards and Moustache Baked Goods. savorhealdsburgfoodtours.com

2 Lights Out

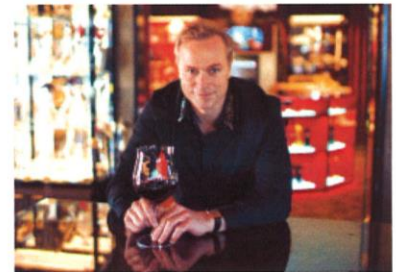
For a truly unique wine tasting experience, head up to Francis Ford Coppola Winery in Geyserville for one of its new "Tasting in the Dark" experiences. Hosted by Hoby Wedler, a blind graduate student from UC Davis, guests will learn how flavors and aromas in wine are accentuated by turning off the lights. Participants are blindfolded and led through the winemaker's lab. The tour takes two hours and includes four wines. francisfordcoppolawinery.com

3 View Vines

Starting this month, Jordan Estate in Healdsburg is offering hikes on its 1,200-acre ranch. The guided journey begins with a continental breakfast at Vista Point, called the "best view in the Alexander Valley" by Fodor's. The trip continues for four miles through natural wildlife habitat, sustainably farmed vineyards and olive orchards. The hike ends back at the Winery Chateau for wine country charcuterie paired with Jordan chardonnay and Jordan cabernet sauvignon. jordanwinery.com

An Agent of Taste

Jean-Charles Boisset (pictured below), affectionately known as the James Bond-like Agent 69 on YouTube and now heading up his family's vast winery empire, has recently opened JCB Tasting Salon in Yountville. And next door is Atelier by JCB, a gourmet epicurean marketplace offering up culinary treats such as salts, mustards and honey from Boisset's winery estates and hand-selected smoked salmon, caviar, anchovies, truffles, foie gras, terrines, charcuterie, more than 120 cheeses, chocolate, specialty teas and coffees from his travels. Retail offerings will include JCB's custom-designed jewelry collection, candies and perfumes as well as luxury goods, including Lalique, Baccarat, Christoffe, and Bernardaud porcelain. In the tasting room, the JCB collection of French and Napa Valley wines will be featured in three distinctive flights. "We are ecstatic to share our vision of wine lifestyle, where wine is at the center of life and is surrounded by beauty and art," says Boisset. "JCB represents the producers and houses that we adore the most, whose wares have been curated for years, and that we desire to share with the world as an extension of our lifestyle and savoir-vivre." jbcollection.com **M.T.**



NEW LOOK, NEW TASTES This summer, St. Helena's Freemark Abbey winery is celebrating its 130th anniversary with a complete makeover and the addition of a new restaurant called Two Birds One Stone. "We brought on SB Architects and BraytonHughes Design Studio from San Francisco, who will focus on preserving the 100-year-old historic stone building while introducing modern updates, including a dedicated space for the winery's unrivaled wine library — one of the largest in the Napa Valley," says Ted Edwards, Freemark Abbey's director of winemaking. The winery is also renovating the historic tasting room. The new yakitori-centric restaurant will be headed by notable California chefs Douglas Keane and Sang Yoon. freemarkabbey.com **M.T.**