



wine country's best new things



Just when you thought you could stay home for the weekend, we tracked down **25 new reasons** why you have got to go to **Wine Country**.

These restaurants, shops, and hotels— from **Carneros to Calistoga to Geyserville**—made their way into our pages not only because they're new, but also because they're too delicious, too divine, and **too decadent to miss.**

DRINK

thediabloguide

sonoma
county
south

The tasting room for Charles Creek Vineyards is located in an 1890s stare-front, and a life-size statue of a cow made of wine corks reflects founders Bill Gerry Brinton's down-home approach to winemaking. Their traditional midwestern values shine through in their wines, which by most accounts could be sold for \$30 to \$75, but are offered in the \$20 to \$30 price range. Tasting room manager Alan Wastell will pour you a rich and spicy 2002 Miradero Merlot, and make a good case for why Merlot should be hip again, *Sideways* notwithstanding.