San Francisco Chronicle

FOOD // WINE AUGUST 4TH, 2026 2026 GUIDE WINE COUNTRY

Top Wineries in Sonoma County

The best wineries and tasting rooms in America's most dynamic wine region - updated for 2026

By Jess Lander, Esther Mobley

Mascarin Family Wines

1010 Dry Creek Road, Healdsburg

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Preston Gannaway/For the S.F. Chronicle

A long dirt road three miles outside of downtown Healdsburg leads to a quaint house that butts up against a babbling creek. It's the home of a little-known winery called Mascarin, launched in 2024 by the father-daughter duo behind 32 Winds. This Dry Creek Valley winery is, unusually, not focused on Zinfandel, the region's signature. Instead, you'll encounter a super saline Chardonnay, an earthy, whole-cluster Pinot Noir, and a crunchy field blend - a co-fermented mix of Syrah and eight white and red grapes from the Loire Valley in France - that you won't find anywhere else in the world.

All the wines, made by noted winemaker Matt Taylor (formerly of Domaine Dujac in Burgundy, Joseph Swan in Sonoma County, and Araujo and Ink Grade in Napa Valley), are delicate, clean and layered. Taylor sources mostly from organic- and hand-farmed vineyards and employs a natural style with limited sulfur and no additives. Tastings ($45) typically take place on a shaded patio sandwiched between vines and the creek. Keep an eye out for river otters, which occasionally float by.

PHONE: 707-433-1010 TASTING FEE: $45

Excerpted from the San Francisco Chronicle's 2026 "Top Wineries in Sonoma County" feature. Editorial text and photography credited to the San Francisco Chronicle and its contributors.