

WINTER | 23/24

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A Food-and-Wine
Lover's Guide to

HEALDSBURG

23/24

Awash in progressive new restaurants and wine bars, this burg is the toast of California wine country. **By Carole Dixon**



STONESTREET ESTATE VINEYARDS



JORDAN WINERY



HOUSE OF FLOWERS



LITTLE SAINT



MONTAGE HEALDSBURG

Everyone loves Napa, but nestled in the Sonoma County wine country, near the Russian River and rolling hills, the charming city of Healdsburg is coming into its own. Fly into the Charles M. Schultz Sonoma County Airport, and you're just 15 minutes by car from the heart of the action at the Healdsburg Plaza in historic downtown.

STAY

Hotel Healdsburg is a modern wine country respite with Charlie Palmer's Dry Creek Kitchen and new foodie-inspired spa treatments, from the Strawberry Rhubarb Hydrating Massage to the Manuka Honey Facial. For an old-world feel, **Hôtel Les Mars** is a European-style Relais & Châteaux boutique property with Chalkboard, a Bib Gourmand garden-to-table restaurant. **Montage Healdsburg**, a modern bungalow set among the vines, features a zero-edge pool, a Zen yoga garden, and a spa offering grape skin scrubs and other treatments. The retreat's Scout Field Bar was recently revamped with specialty drinks inspired by such intrepid pioneers as Amelia Earhart.

EAT/DRINK

Top new picks on the Healdsburg Plaza: **Roof 106 at The Matheson** is the spot for craft cocktails and crispy glazed chicken wings, but make sure to visit the "wine wall" downstairs with over 88 varietals on tap, including Opus One. Nearby, from the team behind three-Michelin-star SingleThread, **Little Saint** is an all-day, plant-based café with The Second Story elevated vegan dining concept. **Goodnight's Prime Steak + Spirits** is a classic Western steak house with a selection of bourbons. For crudos and negronis, **Molti Amici** is a quirky Wes Anderson-style spot. Head to **Maison Healdsburg**, a wine bar, for rare California bottles, along with sake and beer. And don't miss sustainable Ernest Vineyards' high-end tasting lounge.

DO

Shop at **Forager**, a modern mercantile with kitchen, garden, and vintage goods to bring home. And, when you are ready to leave the Plaza, about 10 minutes outside downtown is **SIMI**, a bucolic winery founded and run by women; enjoy the lovely picnic area and pizzas from the outdoor oven. To sip some of the best pinot noir, chardonnay, and rosé in a garden pod setting, head to **House of Flowers**, and do not miss the main building's world-class art collection. For more art, check out **Jordan Vineyard & Winery**; the producer of French-inspired chardonnay and cabernet sauvignon has a redesigned chateau lobby and a collection of 18th-century drawings from the fabled Galerie Marie-Pierre Jaudel Antiquités in Paris that feels like a museum. For Healdsburg's best views—and some of Sonoma's premier single-vineyard chardonnays and cabernet sauvignons—embark on a mountain tour and tasting at **Stonestreet Estate Vineyards and Winery** in Pocket Peak.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: ERIC WOLFFINGER; DOUGLAS FRIEDMAN; EMILY DORIO; CHRISTIAN HORAN; CHRISTOPHER STARK