

Top Napa Valley Restaurants

This Wine Country dining hub is full of institutions, innovators and new, exciting players.

Napa Valley is famous for wine, but it's also home to some of the biggest cooking talents in the Bay Area.

The valley is a magnet for tourists, who need sustenance between [winery visits](#). So with every restaurant, there tends to be one common question: Does it appeal mainly to locals or tourists?

This guide features a mix of it all: classics, innovators and new, exciting players.

While the French Laundry might be Napa Valley's most famous restaurant, others like Mustards Grill, Bistro Don Giovanni and Bistro Jeanty were also foundational for establishing the region as a dining destination. In the early aughts, spots like the Press and the now-closed Restaurant at Meadowood continued to push the envelope. And the scene continues to evolve.

It doesn't matter if you're visiting on a wine-tasting day trip or a casual stroll through downtown, the likelihood of running into something delicious is high. You'll find awesome fried chicken, crisp pizza, a surprising number of excellent Mexican eateries, sumptuous Spanish tapas and so much more.

Looking for more suggestions? Check out our guides to the [best Mexican restaurants](#), the [best fine dining restaurants](#) and the [best restaurants in the Bay Area](#).

Zuzu

829 Main St., Napa [SEE ON MAP](#) | [ADD TO WISHLIST](#)



Cesar Hernandez / The Chronicle

Spanish restaurant Zuzu in downtown Napa has an intimate yet easygoing atmosphere. Guests have the option to enjoy their libations and small plates outdoors on the patio. Tapas, both hot and cold, are packed with flavor. Everything from the fatty jamon Iberico (\$22) to the ethereally crisp chicken croquettes (\$12) to the grilled steak (\$22) is worth ordering. If you're visiting with a larger group, paellas are a smart idea. The wine flows freely here, or you can opt for Zuzu's other boozy specialty: customizable gin and tonics.

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PAYMENT OPTIONS: Credit cards accepted **DRINKS:** Beer, wine and gin and tonics
HOURS: Lunch Wednesday-Monday **PHONE:** 707-224-8555 [WEBSITE](#)