

Sunset

# SUMMER TRIPS

*The  
West's Best*  
**WATERFRONT  
CABINS**

**73**  
*Weekend  
Getaways*

POINT NO POINT,  
VANCOUVER ISLAND  
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Sunset pockets

*Stay*  
**LUXURY  
AIRSTREAM  
CAMPING**

*Go*  
**BEST  
ROAD  
TRIPS**

*Play*  
**QUIET  
COASTAL  
TOWNS**



1. Graton Ridge Cellars.  
2. Spirit Works Distillery at The Barlow.  
3. Snapdragon Bakery's famous berry cupcakes.

# SEBASTOPOL

Find the best of wine country in this one sleepy Sonoma County town.

## Artisans galore

"We're bringing the artisans out of the woods and into the town center," says Barney Aldridge, owner of **The Barlow**, a 13-acre retail park that packs a week's worth of West Sonoma County destinations—cafes, community markets, tasting rooms—under 17 farmhouse-style roofs. Some two dozen shops are set up in the former apple factory. Learn how to pull the perfect espresso at Taylor Maid's coffee lab. Or sample first-batch gin at Spirit Works Distillery; every drop has been milled, mashed, fermented, and bottled on-site. Tasting (from \$5) breaks are best spent by the outdoor firepits at sunset. 6770 McKinley St.; [thebarlow.net](http://thebarlow.net).

## Wineries without the bottleneck

You won't bump into lost tourists or limo gridlock along the Gravenstein Highway. This is a wine trail for the laid-back set. At **Merry Edwards Winery**, the grounds are as sumptuous as the Sauvignon Blanc. A mile up the road, break for a picnic and a round of bocce at **Graton Ridge Cellars**, or just lounge in the Adirondack chairs with a glass of leathery Petite Sirah. A flute of bubbly to round out your afternoon? Continue north to **Iron Horse Vineyards** for *blanc de blancs* and the best views in Sebastopol. *Merry Edwards*: 2959 State 116; [merryedwards.com](http://merryedwards.com). *Graton Ridge*: \$10 tasting; 3561

State 116; [gratonridge.com](http://gratonridge.com).  
*Iron Horse*: Tasting from \$20; 9786 Ross Station Rd.; [ironhorsevineyards.com](http://ironhorsevineyards.com).

## A Sonoma-style sugar high

Tracy Walls always used to bake for her teenage daughters and their friends before opening **Snapdragon Bakery**, a rustic cafe south of downtown that she calls "an extension of my living room." The bakery is known for its drool-worthy seasonal cupcakes. This summer, expect to find favorites like strawberry, raspberry, and Meyer lemon—all made with a shameless amount of butter. 2661 Gravenstein Hwy. S./State 116; (707) 823-0144.

## Roadside goodies

Long before the food-truck trend frenzy, there were porches where farmers would sell their homemade goods. In Sebastopol, that hasn't changed. On a 2-mile stretch of Bloomfield and

Pleasant Hill Roads that winds through orchards and vineyards, you'll spy handmade signs for fresh eggs, honey, and pies, as well as fruits and vegetables. **Bloomfield Bees Honey** is an adorable roadside shed that sells raw, creamed honey and organic soaps and candles. 1295 Bloomfield Rd.; [bloomfieldbeeshoney.com](http://bloomfieldbeeshoney.com).

—JENNA SCATENA



**GETTING HERE**  
Sebastopol is 55 miles north of San Francisco. From U.S. 101, go west on State 116.