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10 Wine Country openings to check out in 2023



A classic Napa estate makes a comeback

Napa Valley gets glitzier by the day, which has left many of the region's classic estates fighting to keep up. St. Helena's Markham Vineyards is the latest historic Napa Valley winery to embark on a head-to-toe makeover for the first time in over 30 years. Best known for its commitment to producing high-quality Merlot — despite widespread fallout for the grape since the movie "Sideways" premiered over 20 years ago — Markham transformed its dated stone tasting room into a bright, airy haven with high ceilings and midcentury modern furnishings. The winery also updated the barrel cellar, giving guests a peek behind the curtain, and added new outdoor tasting spaces in the courtyard complete with sleek fire tables for the chilly winter months. Just as Merlot is finally coming back into fashion, Markham is, too.

2812 St. Helena Hwy North, St. Helena. markhamvineyards.com