



113 CALIFORNIA WINES RATED 90+

# WINE ENTHUSIAST<sup>®</sup>

MAGAZINE

JUNE 2011

HOW  
TO

PAIR WINE &

Plus:

- Sauces
- Rubs
- Cocktails
- & More!

THE  
HOT  
CHARLOTTE  
COCKTAIL  
PAGE 32

# BBQ

NAPA  
VALLEY'S

NEWEST NORTHERN  
HOT SPOT

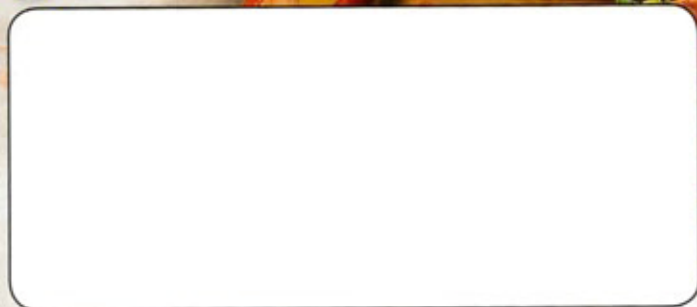
DISCOVER  
SCOTLAND'S ICONIC  
WHISKIES

12

CABS  
FROM  
CHILE  
YOU  
MUST  
TRY

GO  
TO:

WineMag.com







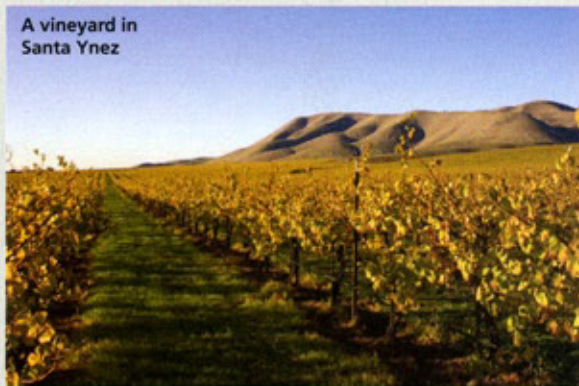
## BEAT THE CROWDS TO BOLGHERI

Italy's best-kept secret in June.

### LUXE LIFE

#### Santa Ynez Inn

A vineyard in Santa Ynez



The little town of Santa Ynez might not be your first choice for a luxurious wine country weekend. But Santa Ynez (population 4,250), once a rustic retreat for the Hollywood set, offers upscale ranch-style accommodations in the heart of California wine country via historic retreat. The **Santa Ynez Inn** was built on the site of a circa 1900 stagecoach house, opened in 2001 and had rooms added in 2008. With a AAA four-diamond rating, it offers easy elegance in its 20 spacious guest rooms featuring working fireplaces, jacuzzi baths, steam showers and media entertainment centers. The grounds invite exploration—guests have access to an outdoor heated whirlpool, sun deck and gardens with lush fountains. A fully equipped spa on the premises offers services like the sage and warm stone massage, based on a Native American healing ritual. Post-pampering, the inn is an ideal base for exploring the charming town which offers upscale shops and excellent eateries (like Vineyard House and Grappolo) along with the valley's 80-plus wineries. If exploring the beautiful countryside is your aim, just over the hill is the Pacific coast and the city of Santa Barbara. Plush extras include a full breakfast served gratis in the dining room, which also boasts an evening wine hour with hors d'oeuvres and a dessert buffet. Spring through Fall, the weather is ideal. Rates start at \$295 per night. [santaynezinn.com](http://santaynezinn.com)

—STEVE HEIMOFF



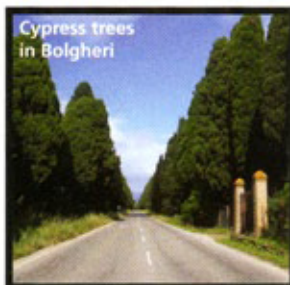
Santa Ynez Inn

**B**olgheri should really be called Super Tuscany; it is, after all, home to many of the most prestigious super Tuscans (made with varieties such as Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Syrah) and unlike its more famous neighbor to the east, Bolgheri is a five-minute drive from the beaches of the Mediterranean. Later in the summer, the wine-loving hordes will spill over from the "other" Tuscany, but in June, the restaurants, wine bars, wineries and winding roads of Bolgheri and La Maremma are yours alone. No wonder this is considered one of Europe's best-kept secrets.

An imposing row of cypress trees line the route leading to this medieval village at the heart of some of the finest vineyards anywhere. Take in the scenery with local winemakers—who may just arrive on horseback—at **Caffé Della Posta** (1/A Largo Nonna Lucia), where much business gets done over a cup of espresso or glass of local red wine. Sample a glass (and bring home a bottle) of award-winning Ornellaia, Sassicaia or Le Macchiole alongside cured meats at **Enoteca Tognoni** (Via Lauretta, 5; [enotecatognoni.it](http://enotecatognoni.it)), just inside Bolgheri's stone walls. Come dinnertime, stroll to **Osteria Magona** (Piazza Ugo, 2; [osteriamagona.com](http://osteriamagona.com)) and enjoy local specialties with the likes of Tenute Folonari Campo al Mare or Tenute Argentiera's Bolgheri Superiore—whose name pretty much sums up residents' feelings about the place.

Grab a bicycle and get there under your own power—there's hardly anybody else on the road anyway, and these world-class vineyards are best appreciated as you glide along through gently rolling hills.

—MIKE DESIMONE & JEFF JENSSEN



Cypress trees in Bolgheri

### SNAPSHOT



Ivanka Trump

### CHEERS TO THE GOOD LIFE

New York, NY

Stars tasted Premium Casa Dragones Tequila and sipped Blanc de Blancs sparkling wine by Sofia Coppola out of cans as Ivanka Trump unveiled her fine jewelry line in February, 2011 at her upscale boutique. Trump's collection was presented in conjunction with **AHAlife.com**, a Web site offering hard-to-find luxury items "curated" by tastemakers like Bobbi Brown, Cynthia Rowley and Daniel Boulud. —ALEXIS KORMAN