

## Meetings, Events, Conferences and Retreats in Sonoma Valley

Cradled between two mountain ranges and located only 45 miles north of San Francisco, Sonoma Valley is an ideal destination for conferences and meetings, intimate team building retreats, corporate events and workshops, and social gatherings of any size. The region's many attractions include some of the finest wineries and restaurants, a wide range of lodging accommodations -- from luxury resorts to quaint inns and vineyard cottages -- pampering spas, golf courses, as well as fascinating historical sites and more than 13,000 acres of state and regional parkland.

Professional meeting and conference rooms with innovative technology, gourmet catering service and flexible, well-appointed indoor and outdoor space are just a few of the conveniences that Sonoma Valley hotels provide. From **The Lodge at Sonoma, Renaissance Resort & Spa's** 22,000-square-foot of customizable indoor and outdoor event space, and **The Best Western Sonoma Valley Inn's** Krug Event Center -- accommodating up to 170 guests and offering customized team building packages -- to **MacArthur Place's** indoor meeting rooms set in a century-old, 5,000-square-foot barn, excellent options are available for nearly any size and style of event.

The region's bounty of beautiful wineries -- more than 40 line the valley -- are ideal for social or corporate gatherings. Aside from the elegantly crafted, award-winning wines, many Sonoma Valley wineries feature multiple options for group dinners, private wine tastings and receptions. For those wishing to host an outdoor winery reception, **B.R. Cohn Winery** provides a spectacular hillside lawn set amid organic vineyards and vintage French Picholine olive trees. At **Landmark Vineyards**, groups can focus on business workshops and team building skills incorporating the winery's fun and engaging *Vinolympics* program, which includes games of bocce ball, croquet, badminton and horseshoes on the winery grounds. The historic **Buena Vista Carneros** winery, Sonoma's first winery, founded in 1857, is equipped to accommodate up to 200 people in the picturesque, rustic setting of the stone Press House and courtyard gardens.

Sonoma Valley is also home to world-class cuisine and award-winning chefs. Numerous local restaurants provide large and small private dining rooms, and offer full buy-out options. Taking pride in creating distinctive wine country cuisine with a focus on sourcing fresh, local and organic ingredients, Sonoma Valley's renowned chefs are committed to showcasing the Valley's abundance of seasonal produce. On-site and off-site catering is also available from several restaurants, such as **the girl & the fig's** off-site catering company **the girl & the fig CATERERS!**, where guests can customize a menu for any reception, business meeting or corporate function.

While the thought of wine country conjures up images of premium wine and excellent cuisine, outdoor activity is also a top attraction in Sonoma. Between meetings, visitors can enjoy Sonoma Valley's beauty while hiking and biking on the miles on wilderness trails throughout the region. Golfing at top-rated and golf courses, such as the **Oakmont Golf Club** is a relaxing outing, or guests may hold a conference for up to 250 in the clubhouse.

For groups looking for a bit of pampering, revitalizing spa treatments are a relaxing option after a long day of meetings. The Valley boasts an array of sophisticated spas, such as the **Garden Spa at MacArthur Place**, where guests can choose from an extensive menu of treatments that feature fresh herbs straight from the property's lavish botanical garden.

Meeting and event planners can also select from nontraditional event space options. For example, **Cornerstone Sonoma**, a nine-acre open-air marketplace of shops, wineries and architectural gardens, offers a varied collection of indoor and outdoor event spaces -- from private gardens to open air tents or Cornerstone's historic barn.

Additional event spaces throughout Sonoma Valley are abundant and packages can be customized based on specific requests. For a complete list of businesses equipped to handle events of any size and caliber, contact the Sonoma Valley Visitors Bureau at (866) 996-1090 or visit the website at [www.sonomavalley.com](http://www.sonomavalley.com).