

The Best of Buellton

BUELLTON, CA, — Located just north of Santa Barbara in the heart of the Santa Barbara Wine Country and just 10 miles from the beautiful Pacific Ocean on Hwy 101, Buellton is the perfect place to call home when exploring the Central Coast. Surrounded by bucolic scenery and the rolling Sta. Rita Hills, Buellton is home to the famous "Sideways" movie. Known for Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, one will find the pioneer makers and masters of this wine right here in Buellton. The Craft Beer industry has also made its way into Buellton featuring two award-winning breweries, Firestone Walker, and Figueroa Mountain Brew Co. To the east is the quaint Danish village of Solvang and to the west is the town of Lompoc, home of Vandenberg Space Force Base. Buellton has much to offer and is an up-and-coming City with annual events centered around; wine, beer, food, arts, cycling, and more. www.discoverbuellton.com

ACCOMMODATIONS

Visitors to Buellton will be impressed by the lodging options. The destination has everything from modern boutique hotels like the Sideways Inn, and Hotel Hygge, to big brand names like the Santa Ynez Valley Marriott and Hampton Inn & Suites. If you're looking for an outdoor adventure, visitors can "glamp it up" at Flying Flags RV Resort with lodging options like vintage trailers, safari test, and luxury cabins.

The charming **Hampton Inn & Suites** is a 99-room property. The hotel is situated in a peaceful location, yet within walking distance of the popular local restaurant and brewery Firestone Walker Brewing Company.

The Sideways Inn is a luxury boutique hotel with modern artwork displayed throughout the property. The 111 rooms are rustic with a bit of Danish charm, and for a unique twist, the door to each room is made of frosted glass.

Sideways Inn's sister property, **Flying Flags RV Resort**, is great for an amazing outdoor adventure. Guests can choose from any of the vintage airstreams, charming cottages, or safari tents. Both the cottage and safari tents offer the glamping experience— the cottages have the feeling of home and the tents allow you to tell people you are "roughing it" as you sit in your King-size bed looking out at the mountain views. Each lodging option has its own backyard and a BBQ and/or fire pit.

The **Santa Ynez Valley Marriott** has a modern feel with its reinvented lobby features functional seating, state-of-the-art technology, and innovative food and beverage concepts. The 167-room property is popular for its meeting space which includes a total of nine meeting rooms including a ballroom.

Hotel Hygge is Buellton's newest lodging option, this 23-room property just debuted in September 2022. The property's ambiance delivers everything needed to unwind in a Danish minimalist style. Every single amenity and every room are designed to indulge your senses: from ultra-soft throw blankets and rich, scented bath products to a comfortable, succulent-studded courtyard and a perfectly pebbly bocce ball court.

DINING & LIBATIONS

For a farm-to-table experience, foodies will love the flavors at **Industrial Eats**. With an eclectic menu, locally sourced ingredients, communal dining including outdoor seating and food prepared in 800-degree brick ovens, your taste buds will be delighted you stopped in. Owners, Jeff and Janet Olsson have been in the restaurant and catering business for many years and know how to please the palate with their innovative menu options. Next door to Industrial Eats is the Grand Room which can accommodate private groups and larger gatherings.

On the central coast of California, BBQ has always meant grilling over an open fire of red oak, a style of cooking that is native to the area and goes back to the days of the Spanish Rancheros. **The Hitching Post II** blends traditional Santa Maria Barbecue with eclectic local ingredients and award-winning wines for an exciting cuisine that is uniquely its own. Not only is Frank Ostini owner and chef at The Hitching Post II, he is also one of the winemakers, along with partner Gray Hartley. "When I began working in my family's restaurant after college, I found that when I fell in love with wine, I fell in love with the restaurant business. I finally understood dining as an event and as a social occasion," Frank says. "To me, food by itself seemed boring, but once you put wine on the table and have different wines combined with different foods, it all became very interesting to me and I was hooked."

Known for its wine thanks in large part to the hit movie *Sideways*, Buellton has also been a part of the craft beer movement for years with two award-winning small breweries getting their start here: Firestone Walker Brewing Co. and Figueroa Mountain Brewing Co. Firestone Walker Brewing Co. has been a long-time favorite on the Central Coast. The **Taproom Restaurant** serves up delicious food to pair with their wide variety of beers. Nestled inside the Taproom is **Barrelworks**. This Tasting Room and Blending Center features beers from their wild ale program as well as one-off selections from their barrel-aging spirits program. Single barrel and small batch brews are limited in quantity and available only while supplies last.

Figueroa Mountain Brewing Company is one of the fastest growing craft breweries in America. It was founded by father and son team Jim and Jaime Dietenhofer in 2010. With a passion for craft beer, they set out to pay homage to the beautiful Santa Ynez Valley with handcrafted beer and hand-drawn

artwork depicting the local landscape on their labels. Recently they opened a restaurant in their brewery as well – **The Kitchen @ Figueroa Mountain Brewing Co**.

Buellton is home to **DorWood Distillery** (Formerly known as Brother Spirits). Taking advantage of its wine country location and using locally grown chardonnay wine grapes to create a vodka with a creamy, velvet taste, Dorwood is a true grain-to-bottle hands-on distillery making small batches of spirits hand-crafted the old-world way. Head on over to Dorwood and enjoy a handcrafted, smooth, sophisticated spirit.

The Tavern at Zaca Creek showcases the best of what Santa Ynez Valley has to offer by supporting local farmers, ranchers, and fishers. The restaurant menu features an array of delicious wagyu steaks, handmade pastas, locally caught seafood, and farm-fresh organic produce. Their bar is populated with the most sought-after bourbons and ryes, to the most region-centric agave flavors of tequila and mezcal. Visit The Tavern at Zaca Creek and taste through a hand-picked selection of the most expressive & elegant vodkas and sense the exquisite taste that pairings truly highlight.

Vega Vineyard & Farm is Buellton's newest winery located just off Highway 101 in the heart of Santa Barbara Wine Country. Visitors can experience rustic farm life at a picturesque vineyard and enjoy wines by Steve Clifton, delicious food sourced from their estate garden, or stop by for a visit with their farm animals.

Industrial Way is a half-mile-long trail that has everything for food lovers and wine and beer drinkers to enjoy. Begin the trial with wine-tasting rooms, alongside various dining options, a top-notch craft brewery/tap room, a distillery, and more. Tasting rooms on Industrial Way include Buscador Wine, Cholame Vineyard, tierra y vino, Loring Wine Company, Imagine Wine, Esfuerzo Wines, and Roark Wine Company. Beginning in March 2023, Industrial Way will be offering "Wine Wednesday" with guest food trucks, and live music.

ACTIVITIES

The **Mendenhall Museum** is a must-see while in Buellton. It is a personal collection of really unique gas station/automobile memorabilia and other antiques. The museum has one of the largest petroliana collections on the West Coast, including gasoline pumps, globes, and porcelain gas, oil, & road signs. There are also race cars, racing memorabilia, license plates, gas & oil items, and other miscellaneous antiques. This collection was started over fifty years ago by the late Jack Mendenhall and is carried on today by his son and daughter in law, Mark and Vickie. Tours are available.

Ostrichland USA is a one-of-a-kind attraction in Buellton where visitors can get up close and personal with emus and ostriches – Buellton's favorite animals. Here guests can feed these unique birds while they roam freely in an area that resembles their native desert.

The Santa Ynez Valley Horseback Rides is an experience that takes you back in time to Old California through a quiet, unspoiled, and rustic ride with nature. Riders depart from stables along the Santa Rita Hills canyon, cross the river, then head toward a bustling beaver dam while enjoying wildlife flourishing in its natural surroundings.

Buellton's newest attraction is **Highline Adventures**. California's longest and fastest zipline, visitors can get a bird's eye view of Santa Ynez Valley soaring through the skies on nearly a mile of cables. This three-hipline course will take you across beautiful hillsides and along vast ridge lines, providing breathtaking views of the area.

FESTIVALS

Buellton's annual signature events offer something for every visitor to enjoy throughout the whole year. With each event having its own unique atmosphere, these are 4 more reasons to check out the quaint and quirky town of Buellton.

The **Buellton Wine and Chili Festival** takes place in March. Guests have the opportunity to sample from a number of wineries, craft breweries, and spirit companies. Not only can attendees enjoy local wine and brews, but also some of the best chili on the Central Coast, and all while listening to live music, playing games, and enjoying the Southern California weather outdoors.

The **Buellton Brew Fest**, which usually takes place in May, is one of the premier beer festivals on the Central Coast. There are consistently more than 50 craft breweries, ciders, wineries, and spirit companies on hand for guests to try.

The **Buellton Fall Fest** takes place in November on the main street, Ave of the Flags. Visitors enjoy carnival rides, games, various food and vendors, live music, and an awesome Ferris Wheel – it's fun for the whole family. For guests wanting to enjoy some tastings, stay for their "Ale on the Ave" Beer & Wine fest, located on the grounds of Buellton's Fall Fest.

Buellton Winter Fest takes place in December. Visitors get to play with 20 tons of snow, enjoy live music, wine, and beer, do some holiday shopping, and watch the lighting of the Christmas Tree downtown. Enjoy breakfast with Santa, take pictures, and grab a goodie bag on the way out.

Come for the festivals and stay for everything else that Buellton has to offer.

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