



Simone's Just Back From: Napa & Sonoma

Some destinations you visit when you are craving to discover what's new, while others attract you precisely because they don't change. Napa and Sonoma fall into the latter category, but on a recent trip I was surprised by the flurry of innovation. The region was buzzing about new developments, including a LEED-certified winery, a farm-to-table restaurant, a by-appointment tasting studio and wine boutique (above) and a cool art gallery-cum-tasting room in St. Helena. Other big news is Kenzo, a winery, estate and tasting room slated to open in May. Set on 4,000 acres in the hills above the town of Napa, it is headed by a dream team of Napa players, including renowned winemakers David Abreu and Heidi Barrett and chef Thomas Keller, who will create food pairings.