



Northern California Trips

San Francisco is the anchor of California's most diverse region, even if earthquakes have shown it isn't rock solid. From exploring the rugged beaches of the Lost Coast to floating down the tranquil Russian River, from poking around (and through) the redwoods to surmounting volcano summits, there's no shortage of natural places to explore and scenic roads to drive in Northern California.

Then there is the wine and food. The Napa Valley is world-famous for top-drawer Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay and sparkling wines, but you can sip equally impressive vintages in Sonoma Valley, the nearby Russian River, Dry Creek and Alexander Valleys, as well as bucolic Anderson Valley near Mendocino. Then soak in some hot springs, where conversations start with, 'Hey, dude!' and end hours later.

Napa Valley Drinking wine among the vineyards AE PICTURES INC / GETTY IMAGES ®