

VISIT

TRI-VALLEY

INSPIRATION GUIDE



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DUBLIN
LIVERMORE
PLEASANTON

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food, fashion,
fitness, entertainment,
and community



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Welcome



The Visit Tri-Valley team, clockwise from top left: Tracy Farhad, Robin Fahr, Amber Haley, Susan Bolt, Todd Dibs and Justin Bower.

WELCOME TO THE TRI-VALLEY!

Who knew the cities of Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and the town of Danville could sock some terrific travel punch? We did! Our Visit Tri-Valley team of professional marketers, sales and customer service experts is keen to share all things Tri-Valley—and ready to show off our favorite people and places, sure to welcome you all to the “sunny side of the Bay”! Indulge in our wonderful culinary scene (see page 16 for more) and meet chef Tullio Rosano; imbibe in-person at one of California’s oldest vineyards or uncover a brand-new one, making its mark in extraordinary viticulture. Discover local hangouts and favorite events in the quaintest cutting-edge downtowns and lively cultural arts spots this side of the East Bay. Then take a breather outdoors in our wide-open spaces and accessible hillsides for spectacular views and downtime.

Whatever business or leisure time brings you to the Tri-Valley, 40-plus lodging choices, from budget to binge-worthy, await you with open arms. That’s what the Tri-Valley is all about—bringing a feeling of down-home to your home away from home, with plenty to talk about when you get back.

See you soon!

Cheers,

TRACY FARHAD
PRESIDENT & CEO, VISIT TRI-VALLEY



TOURISM CARES

Feel free to traipse, travel and follow your joy in the Tri-Valley. We just ask you to keep a few considerations in mind while doing so.

- R**oam Responsibly.
- E**ducate Yourself.
- S**afety First.
- P**reserve the Tri-Valley.
- E**mbrace Community.
- C**elebrate Culture.
- T**each Others.

Information courtesy of Visit California.

ON THE COVER:

Enjoy your own picturesque moment at Sideboard Neighborhood Kitchen and Coffee Bar in Danville.

PHOTO COURTESY OF VISIT TRI-VALLEY



Look for QR codes to link to more information about the Tri-Valley.



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16 BEST BITES

A meal-by-meal guide to some of the Tri-Valley's most tantalizing dining options—with suggestions for a variety of budgets, tastes and vibes.

26 LIQUID ASSETS

Livermore Valley is well known as one of California's leading wine regions, but the Tri-Valley is also making its mark with craft beers, hip bars and trendy taprooms.

40 TIME OUT

Whether you're an outdoor enthusiast, a culture vulture, a car lover or a consummate shopper, there's no shortage of appealing diversions in the Tri-Valley.



40

TOP: NICOLE FRANZEN

DEPARTMENTS

4 GETTING ORIENTED

Check out our quick overview of the Tri-Valley's four distinct and vibrant cities.

8 COMMUNITY CULTURE

From the historic to the practical to the downright quirky, the area has countless stories to tell.

50 GATHER

It's no surprise that the Tri-Valley has become a leading event destination thanks to its idyllic venues and landscapes, welcoming hotels and inns, and many activities to enjoy.

55 WAYFINDING

Where to wine, dine and stay. Plus: How to get here—and get around once you've arrived.



TOP TO BOTTOM: COURTESY OF VISIT TRI-VALLEY; WEDDING DOCUMENTARY



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WELCOME TO OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

A quick primer on our extraordinarily well-located towns.



It's hard to miss Mount Diablo, which rises to 3,849 feet. Make sure to visit the summit where on clear, cloudless days, you can see the Tri-Valley, the Sierra Nevada and even Half Dome in Yosemite.



For a full list of dog-friendly locations, go to VisitTriValley.com/dog-friendly-locations.

DELIGHT IN DANVILLE

If you are looking for small-town charm mixed with a polished yet relaxed vibe, you can't go wrong in Danville. The vibrant downtown features specialty shops, regional theater productions and art shows, wine bars, and top-notch restaurants. Venture away from the hub, and you'll find that Danville is also home to Tao House (the one-time residence of playwright Eugene O'Neill, where his plays live on during the annual Eugene O'Neill Festival), along with numerous hiking trails, parks and open spaces.

DIVE INTO DUBLIN

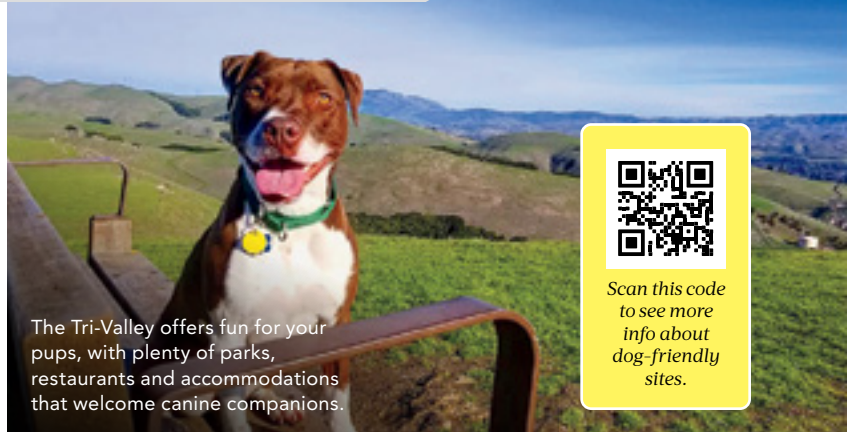
One of the fastest-growing cities in the United States, Dublin is bursting with restaurants, shops, nightlife and activities. It has an impressively diverse culinary scene and a wealth of recreational opportunities for fun-seekers of all ages, including golf, bowling, ice-skating, go-kart racing, and even a water park and trampoline park. There's history here, too: Witness Dublin's annual St. Patrick's Day Festival, which celebrates the Irish heritage of the city's founders. Look for shamrocks adorning city street signs in honor of those early immigrants from the Emerald Isle.

LIVE IT UP IN LIVERMORE

Forget Napa and Sonoma. California's oldest wine-growing region, Livermore is a world-class destination with dozens of wineries—most of which have been family owned and operated for generations. Livermore is not just for wine aficionados, though. There is a wide selection of craft breweries and trendy restaurants, along with plenty of kid-friendly attractions including mini golf, super slides and laser tag. Shoppers flock to the San Francisco Premium Outlets and specialty boutiques downtown. Sample Livermore's rich cultural offerings by catching a show at the Bankhead Theater.

PLAY IN PLEASANTON

Once a Wild West hideout, contemporary Pleasanton offers a plethora of dining, retail options and outdoor recreation. Shopaholics can browse Stoneridge Shopping Center and Main Street boutiques, while food lovers have their pick of restaurants featuring cosmopolitan fare from around the globe. Consistently ranked one of the most desirable places to live in the state, Pleasanton has a happening city center, along with 1,200 acres of parks, open space and trails. Culture lovers can enjoy engaging performances at the Firehouse Arts Center year-round.

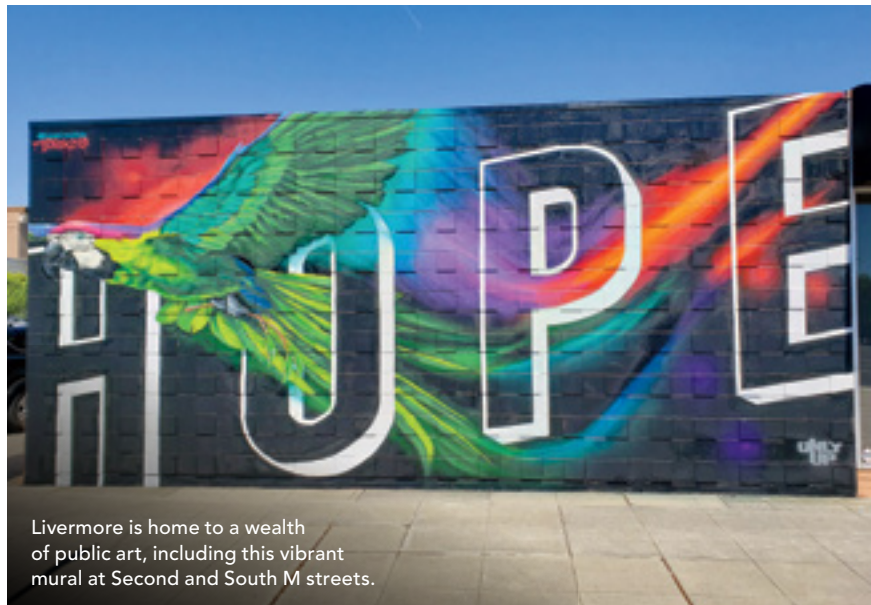


The Tri-Valley offers fun for your pups, with plenty of parks, restaurants and accommodations that welcome canine companions.

QR code with text: Scan this code to see more info about dog-friendly sites.



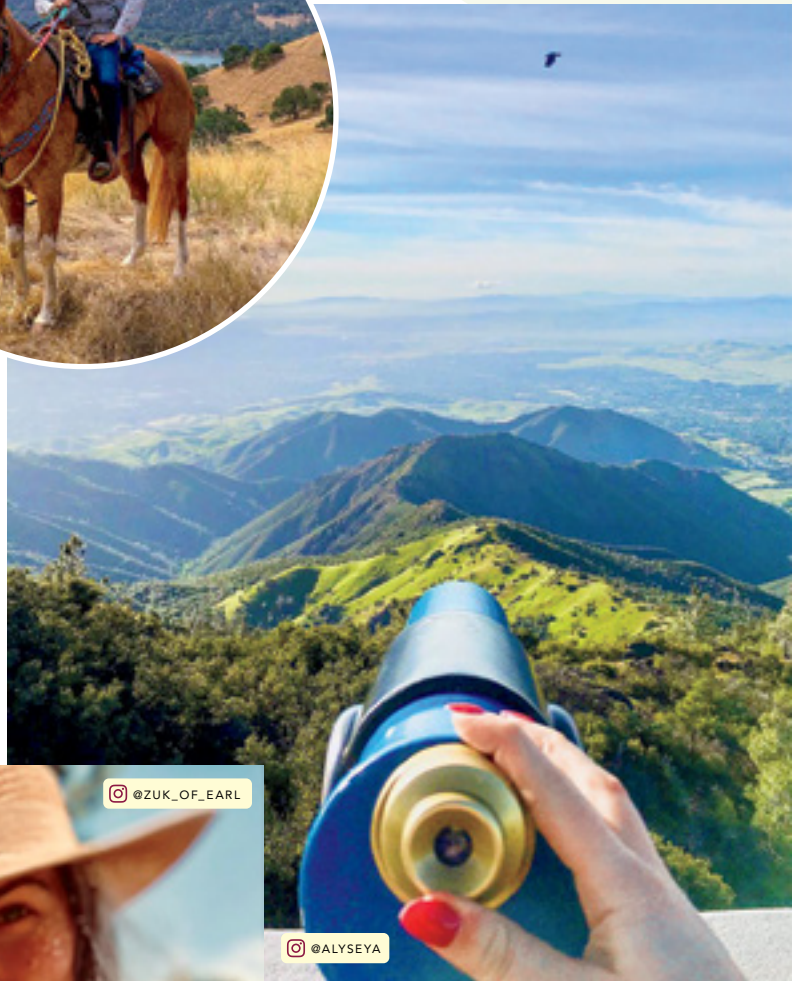
Young auto enthusiasts check out the Hot Summer Sundays Car Show in Danville.



Livermore is home to a wealth of public art, including this vibrant mural at Second and South M streets.

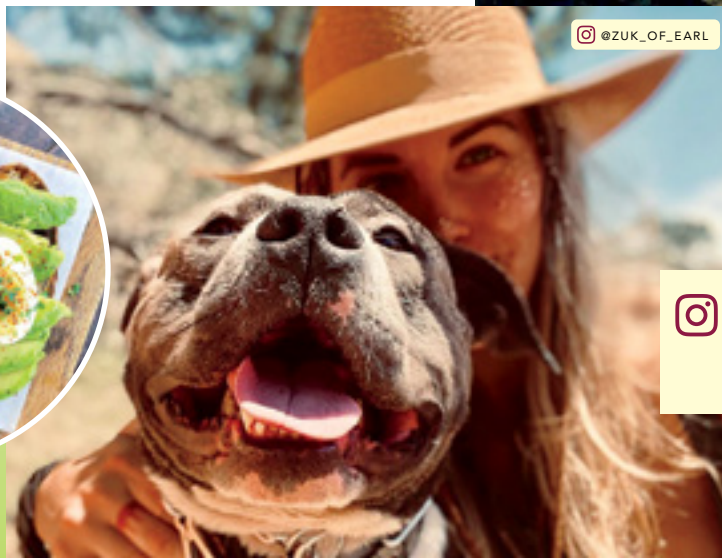
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COMMUNITY CULTURE

The distinctive culture of the Tri-Valley area dates back centuries. Its history, filled with frontierspeople and immigrants, has fostered a unique spirit of local pride, collaboration and innovation that lives on to this day.



HISTORY COMES ALIVE

IN THE TRI-VALLEY, EVERYTHING IS DEEPLY CONNECTED TO THE PAST.

Historical insights can be gleaned in every town throughout the Tri-Valley. For instance, the **Dublin Heritage Park & Museums** is a 10-acre area that is home to **Pioneer Cemetery**; the region's oldest Catholic church, **St. Raymond** (1859); the **Murray Schoolhouse**; and the **Kolb House**, a 1910 Craftsman bungalow that now operates as a museum. **Dublin Camp Parks Military History Center** preserves the old military base, which was known as Fleet City during World War II.

In Danville, an oak tree thought to be more than 350 years old stands on Diablo Road, and its likeness serves as the town's logo. The historic **1891 Southern Pacific Depot** nearby houses the culturally rich **Museum of the San Ramon Valley**.

In Pleasanton, sign up for a historical walking tour with the **Museum on Main**. Don't miss **Alviso Adobe**, a community park that offers a rich interpretive history of the Amador Valley, from its Native American roots to the present day.

Even the wines here are steeped in tradition. **Wente Vineyards**, which started in 1883, produced the first labeled chardonnay, sauvignon blanc and semillon in the country. Today, most of the chardonnay grapes in California descend from Wente clones. **Concannon Vineyard**, founded the same year, made one of the first Bordeaux-style wines in California. Clones of its California cabernet provided the basis for the cab frenzy of the past 40 years.

In addition, the area boasts numerous historic homes, such as Pleasanton's **Century House**—which is more than 150 years old—and **Ravenswood** in Livermore (available for weddings and events).



Dublin Heritage Park & Museums



Gerard'z
Honeybees

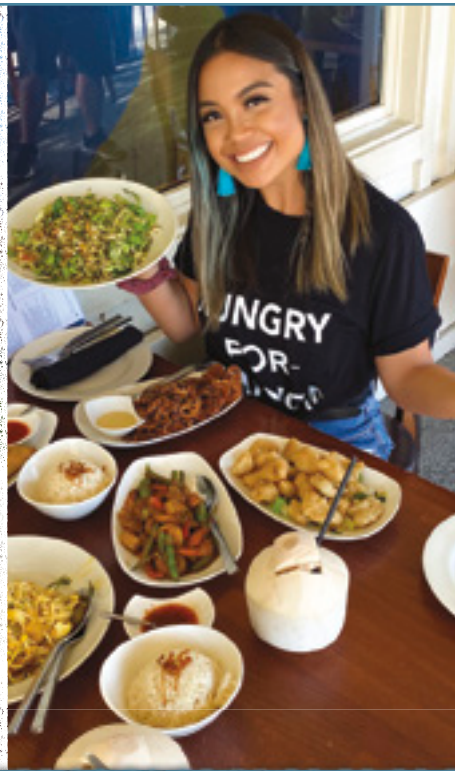


MADE IN THE TRI-VALLEY

TAKE HOME UNIQUE PRODUCTS FROM THESE LOCAL PURVEYORS.

The Tri-Valley has been a hotbed of innovation and creativity for decades, celebrated as being the home of some of California's very first viticultural pioneers, world-renowned scientific researchers and even a Nobel Prize winner. Today it continues to attract a variety of quality artists, farmers, chefs, winemakers, brewers and makers who cultivate, curate and craft their locally made goods. When visiting the Tri-Valley, stop by some of the following makers, and take a piece of this unique region with you.

- > Artisanal honey is the perfect addition to your favorite snack, warm beverage or charcuterie board. **Gerard'z Honeybees** not only produces its raw honey naturally from native wildflowers, it also provides valuable cross-pollination to regional food growers. Get a behind-the-scenes peek at introductory or advanced beekeeping workshops, often hosted at a Livermore Valley winery. The honey is available for purchase at a variety of wineries, breweries and boutiques or online. gerardzhoneybees.com
- > **Sutherland Distilling Company** attributes its award-winning spirits to its focus on sustainability and passion for sourcing local ingredients. Sutherland's 90-proof Apricot Brandy uses 18 pounds of apricots per bottle and took home a Double Gold medal at the San Francisco World Spirit Competition in 2017. sutherlanddistilling.com
- > Those who can't resist a sweet treat should head to **Danville Chocolates**. Loved by locals for their confectionery excellence, the talented chocolatiers at this downtown Danville shop serve up an assortment of delicious delicacies, including caramel apples, truffles, chocolate barks, dipped fruits and more. danvillechocolates.com
- > Latina-owned and operated **Sweet Hope Soap Co.** specializes in all-natural hand-crafted soaps, shampoo bars, face masks and other body products made with sustainable ingredients. Find its small-batch products at makers fairs, area boutiques and online with local pickup or shipping options. sweethopesoapco.com
- > If you are looking for more natural beauty products, stop at **Good Common Sense Naturals** in Pleasanton for organic, nontoxic items made with ingredients grown and roasted in-house. With a keen focus on sustainability, this local maker has cut out parabens, detergents and fragrances; goods are packaged in BPA-free recyclable containers. goodcommonsense.com
- > **Olivina Ranch**—established in 1881 in what's now Livermore Valley Wine Country—makes extra-virgin olive oil from olives grown, harvested, milled and bottled on the historic estate. Olivina Olive Oil is used by several area restaurants and sold at a variety of retailers throughout the Tri-Valley. theolivina.com



COME OUT AND SHOP, DINE, AND PLAY IN THE NEW AMERICAN BACKYARD
 TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT DUBLIN HAS TO OFFER, PLEASE VISIT WWW.DUBLIN.CA.GOV

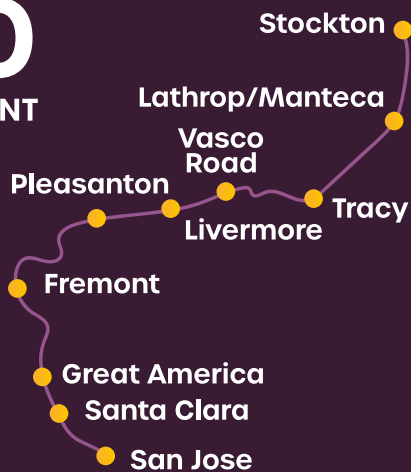
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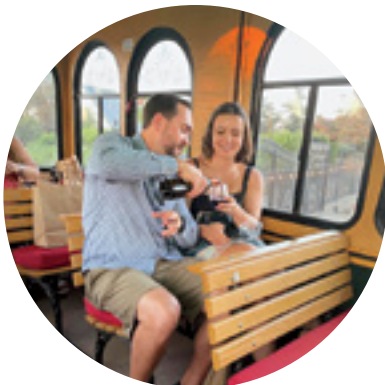
GET TRANSPORTED

WINE WHEELS

The Livermore Wine Trolley tour takes visitors to three wineries for a full wine-tasting flight paired with small bites as part of the Sip and Savor Wine Pairing Tour. Other special offerings are the Taste of the Tri-Valley Food Tour—in which guests sample menus from three noted restaurants—and the Sip and Paint Wine Tour, which includes a painting session at Pinot's Palette, a box lunch from Ofelia's Kitchen, and tastings at Concannon Vineyards and Rios Lovell Winery. The trolley is also available for private charter. livermorewinetrolley.com

GOLDEN AGE

The Golden State Trolley has set its sights on blending “yesterday’s nostalgia with today’s modern luxury” ever since it began traversing Bay Area roads in January 2019. The Golden State Trolley can be rented as a private charter; shuttle; or transportation for weddings, corporate outings or other events. goldenstatetrolley.com



TOUR THE TERRAIN

EXPERIENCE THE TRI-VALLEY AT YOUR OWN SPEED.



2 MPH

All you really need for exploring the region is a pair of comfortable shoes and a game plan. Check out Livermore’s scenic **Greenville Road**, which boasts six vineyards within an easy, milelong stroll, or **Tesla Road**, home to **Wente**, **Concannon**, **Steven Kent** and other well-known wineries. Take a 2.5-hour stroll through downtown and sample the city’s dining scene with **Livermore Foodie Tours**. For a dark glimpse into the region’s history, the **Museum on Main** in Pleasanton offers spooky **Ghost Walk** guided tours of downtown Pleasanton’s most haunted sites in October for Halloween. livermorefoodtours.com, museumonmain.org

12 MPH

Zip along the grapevines on electric bikes from Livermore’s **Pedego Electric Bikes**. Livermore’s Jim Buck recommends this ride from the storefront: “Head east on Patterson Pass, alongside the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. On Greenville Road, turn right and head up the gradual hill. As you peak, you can see the Livermore Valley Wine Country as it opens up to you. At the crossroads of Tesla and Greenville, head straight across Tesla toward the McGrail, Charles R, Bent Creek, Big White House, Caddis and 3 Steves tasting rooms.” Check out VisitTriValley.com for three more self-guided bike routes. pedegoelectricbikes.com

40+ MPH

Black Tie Transportation offers luxury sedans and SUVs, limovans, and executive coaches to give you a feel for the region without the hassle of driving. Custom tours of Tri-Valley wineries (and breweries) come with recommendations from its in-house wine specialist. blacktietrans.com



BRIGHT IDEA

The planet’s longest-burning light bulb, according to *Guinness World Records*, is a humble bulb inside Livermore Fire Station No. 6 on East Avenue. Turned on in 1901, the bulb—nicknamed the **Centennial Light**—has been switched off only four times since then. Originally a 60-watt light, it’s dimmed but still hanging on at 4 watts. Visitors are welcome, depending on the availability of firefighters to let them inside; the bulb is also visible through one of the station’s windows. centennialbulb.org

PLEASANTON

An Extraordinary Experience



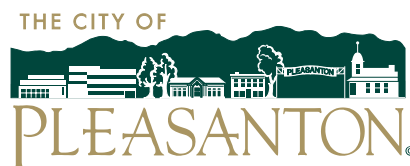
With 1,200 acres of parks and open space and 24 miles of trails to explore, Pleasanton is the ideal place for active individuals and families. Enjoy a round of golf at the award-winning Callippe Preserve or experience outstanding local produce at the year-round Farmers' Market. Soak up the small town vibe in downtown Pleasanton with specialty shops and outdoor dining or sit back and be entertained with a full schedule of events, concerts, and performances at the Firehouse Arts Center. Come and experience an extraordinary day in Pleasanton!

www.cityofpleasantonca.gov

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Discover where to shop, dine, stay,
and play in Pleasanton!



SAVE THE DATES

A year's worth of can't-miss events in the Tri-Valley.

FEBRUARY

Toast the local beer scene (and give back to the community) at the **Livermore Brew Crawl & Food Drive**.

Area restaurants show off their most diverse offerings, including deals for wine lovers and foodies, during **Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant Week**, February 24–March 5.

MARCH

U.S.-made hot rods, classics and more steal the show at the **Goodguys All American Get-Together** at the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

Support the runners at the **Livermore Valley Half Marathon** and celebrate with drinks and live music at the finish.

Sample local craft beers, ciders and tasty bites at Pleasanton's 10th annual **St. Patrick's Day Brew Crawl**.

The annual **St. Patrick's Day Celebration** in Dublin is a weekend full of traditional



Scottish Highland Gathering and Games

Irish jigs, beverages and entertainment, with a 5K fun run/walk and a parade.

APRIL

Ring in spring with fresh produce and local goods at the **Dublin Farmers Market** (see page 49 for other Tri-Valley farmers markets). Through September.

Wander through the streets of downtown Danville while enjoying local shops, wine, art and live music at the **Spring Sip & Stroll**.

Dublin's **Spring Eggstravaganza** typically features a bounce house, carnival games and an Easter egg hunt.

See the Tri-Valley's showcase of STEM at the **Tri-Valley Innovation Fair** presented by Quest Science Center.

MAY

Raise a glass at the **Livermore Downtown Street Fest**, and enjoy a wine and beer pop-up experience, crafts, shopping and dining.

Enjoy unlimited pours, food and live music at the **Livermore Valley Craft Beer Festival**.

JUNE

Ferris wheels, funnel cake and horse racing delight at the **Alameda County Fair** in Pleasanton. (Into July)

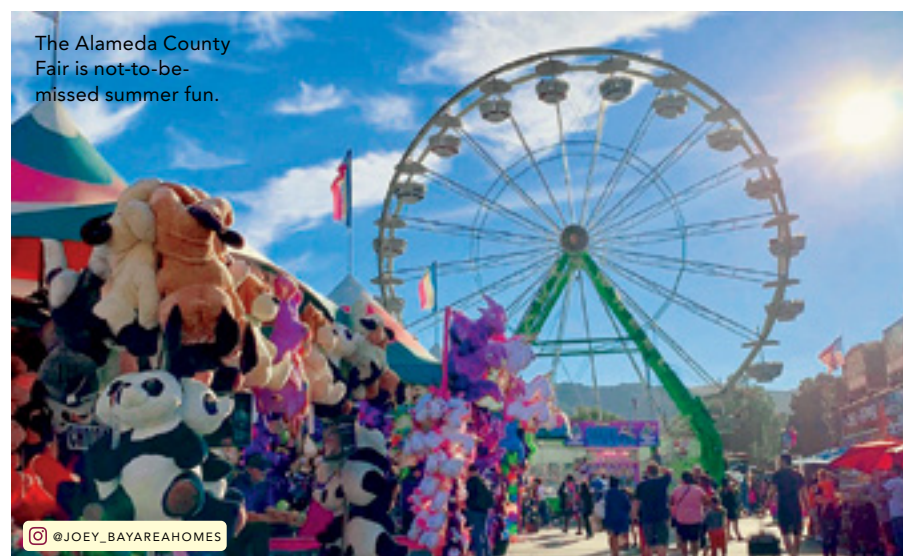
The annual **Livermore Rodeo** is a weekend full of bull riding, barrel racing and cow milking.

Enjoy live theater, wine and a picnic at Livermore's Darcie Kent Vineyards during **Shakespeare in the Vineyard**. (Into August)

JULY

Kick off Independence Day with the annual **Danville July Fourth Parade**.

The **Fourth of July Family Fun Fireworks Celebration** is a pyrotechnic spectacle in downtown Livermore.



The Alameda County Fair is not-to-be-missed summer fun.

@JOEY_BAYAREAHOMES

Calendar /

Livermore Valley's premier food and wine affair, **Taste Our Terroir**, features cooking classes, seminars and vineyard tours.

AUGUST

Summer revs up with Danville's **Hot Summer Sundays Car Show**. Then check out more than 3,000 hot rods, customs, classics, muscle cars and trucks at **Goodguys West Coast Nationals**.

SEPTEMBER

Honor one of Danville's most famous residents at the **Eugene O'Neill Festival**. See performances of the playwright's works.

Celebrate Scottish culture, competition and entertainment at the Alameda County Fairgrounds during the **Scottish Highland Gathering and Games**.

Commemorate the end of summer at Dublin's **Splatter Festival**, where art, music and wine are colorfully combined.

OCTOBER

Meet the ghosts of Pleasanton's past at Museum on Main's **Ghost Walk**, a guided tour of haunted sites on Main Street.

Bring the family to some ol' fashioned fall fun at Dublin's **Harvest Fair**.

Experience innovative arts and technologies at **Ignite!** in Pleasanton. The free family event features activities, entertainment and food.



The Goodguys car shows feature classic wheels.

Hop on your bike and discover delicious new beers during **Livermore Bikes and Brews**.

Get your thrills at **Pirates of Emerson**, the yearly theme park at the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

Halloween-themed girl power prevails at Livermore's **Witches Night Out**, with shopping specials and cocktails.

NOVEMBER

Kick off the holiday season with Danville's annual **Lighting of the Old Oak Tree**.

Ride through Niles Canyon at night during the holiday season with the **Train of Lights** on certain Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings. (Into December)

DECEMBER

Livermore Valley tasting rooms go holiday-themed with cheery decor

and festive offerings at **Holidays in the Vineyards**.

Downtown Livermore's **Holiday Sights & Sounds Parade** highlights a variety of floats and ends with a tree lighting.

Save your spot for downtown Pleasanton's **Hometown Holiday Celebration**, featuring marching bands, floats and an appearance by Santa.

The **Lights of Livermore Holiday Tour** offers a wine reception followed by a trolley ride by Livermore's best holiday light displays.

Go to VisitTriValley.com/events for the most up-to-date information on these and other events.



Scan this code for a complete list of Tri-Valley events.



Enjoy performances, art and wine at the Splatter Festival in Dublin.



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NICOLE FRANZEN



BEST BITES

With restaurants, cafes and sweet shops galore, dining in the Tri-Valley is a culinary adventure. Choose among upscale venues and down-home diners, farm-to-table dishes and ethnic eats. In the following pages, you'll find meal-by-meal suggestions that will have you wishing there were more chances to eat in the day.



taste
TRI-VALLEY
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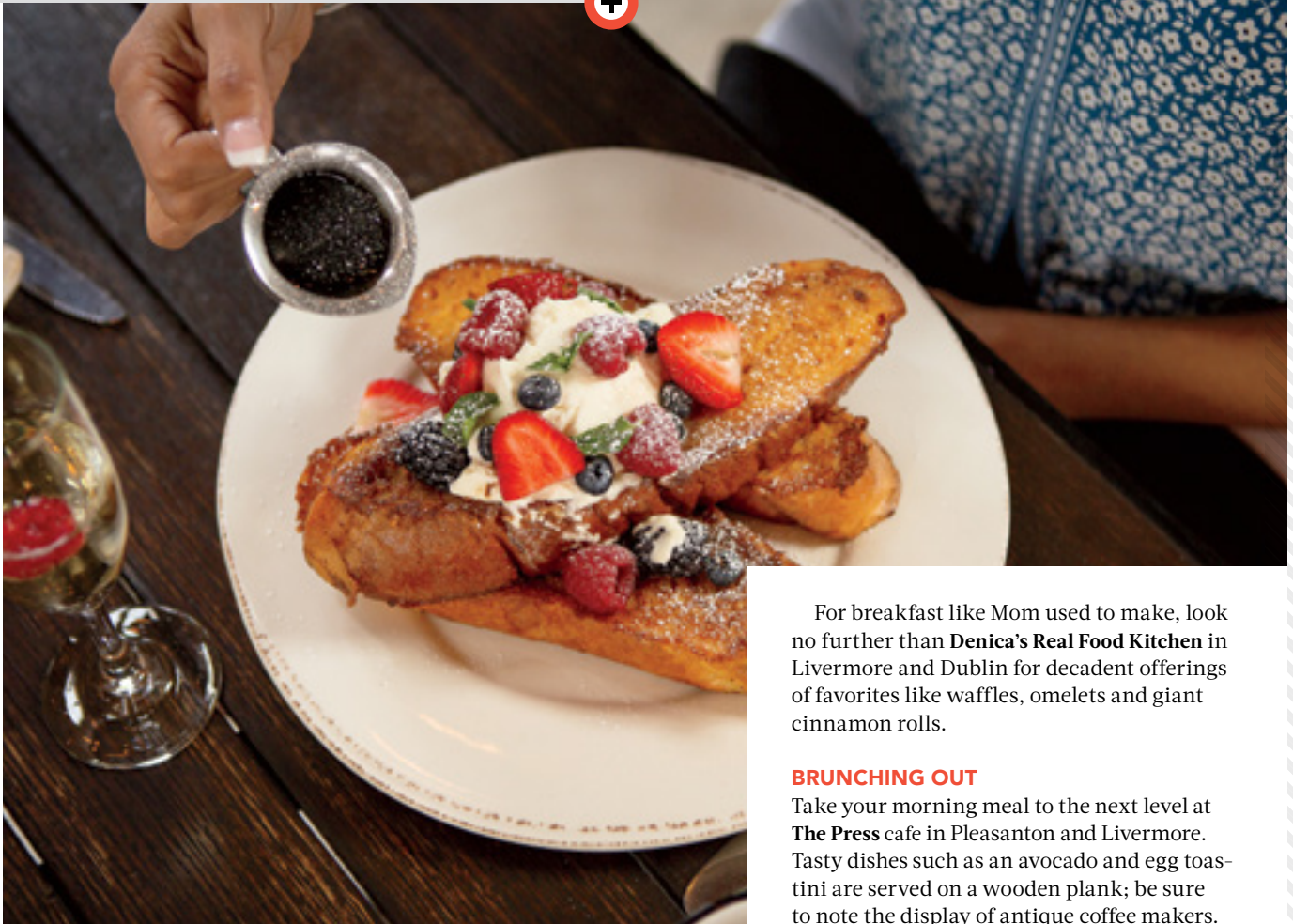
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Learn more at: [VisitTriValley.com/RestaurantWeek](https://www.VisitTriValley.com/RestaurantWeek)



Monica's Livermore, located in a historic building, offers generously portioned breakfasts, including French toast made with house-baked bread. Consider having your meal on the spacious outdoor patio.



For breakfast like Mom used to make, look no further than **Denica's Real Food Kitchen** in Livermore and Dublin for decadent offerings of favorites like waffles, omelets and giant cinnamon rolls.

BRUNCHING OUT

Take your morning meal to the next level at **The Press** cafe in Pleasanton and Livermore. Tasty dishes such as an avocado and egg toastini are served on a wooden plank; be sure to note the display of antique coffee makers. Work on your Great American Novel over a mug brewed from Chromatic Coffee Co.

Open early on the weekends (take advantage to avoid the crowds), **Mayflower Restaurant** in Dublin creates a transporting experience with its inviting atmosphere and authentic dim sum menu. If you're feeling adventurous, head over to **Blossom Bee**, also in Dublin. The Thai fusion creperie puts a twist on breakfast food with dishes like the Dublin Rancheros crepe with grilled chicken and scrambled eggs.

Baci Bistro & Bar, in downtown Pleasanton, specializes in steak, seafood and Italian cuisine, but the weekend brunch menu is something really special. Try the fried egg avocado toast or steak tostadas.

Enjoy the sweet scent of Tri-Valley mornings at **Nonni's Bistro**, an open-air, European-style eatery in Pleasanton. Both breakfast and brunch are served on weekends, giving plentiful takes on the morning meal.

BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS

THERE'S NO BETTER WAY TO START YOUR DAY THAN WITH A DELICIOUS, ENERGIZING MEAL AT ONE OF THESE TRI-VALLEY RESTAURANTS.

THE CLASSICS

The Riata Diner & Tavern in Livermore reflects the area's pioneer past with Wild West-inspired decor and memorabilia—and offers hearty breakfast dishes. For more quirky furnishings and no-frills food to start your day, check out **Jim's Country Style Restaurant** in Pleasanton. The popular diner (there can be a line at the door on weekends) features wood-paneled walls, street signs as art and mouthwatering all-day breakfast items.

Follow the locals to Danville's **Sideboard Neighborhood Kitchen and Coffee Bar**, a premier cafe that features deluxe brands such as Sightglass, Temple and more. Indulge yourself with an order of beignets to go. **Crumbs** is another Danville community gathering place that is popular with all ages. Fill up on sizable plates including crab benedict, country fried steak and eggs, chicken and waffles, and ube pancakes.

WENTE

VINEYARDS

TASTING LOUNGE

"What a wonderful way to enjoy wine. The patio is peaceful and lovely. The wines were delicious. We'd recommend this experience in a heartbeat." -Gail C.



5050 ARROYO ROAD, LIVERMORE

OPEN THURSDAY-SUNDAY • MORE INFORMATION AT WENTEVINEYARDS.COM

Please Drink Responsibly. California Table Wine, ©2022 Wente Vineyards, Livermore, CA. All Rights Reserved.



Since opening in 2016, **Danville Harvest** has earned a lot of buzz—and deservedly so. Embracing the farm-to-table concept, the charming restaurant serves a delicious menu centered on seasonal ingredients.

Lunch in style at Pleasanton's **Oasis Wine Lounge**. The exotic interior space, with rich red accents throughout, and inviting patio are perfect for dining a deux or with a group. The Mediterranean menu with a modern flair includes lamb lollipops, pumpkin borani, gyros and kebabs.

Opened in 1997, **Blue Agave Club** was the first restaurant in Pleasanton to showcase Mexican cuisine. More than 20 years later, the popular spot is well known for its 100 percent blue agave tequila margaritas as well as its enchanting outdoor dining experience.

POWER LUNCH

For authentic Southeast Asian cuisine, **Experience Burma** in Pleasanton has got you covered. Dining family style is recommended—and the best way to sample multiple dishes—so grab some friends and dig into the pumpkin pork stew or lemon grass tofu. In Livermore, **Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard's** remarkable wine list perfectly complements Szechuan staples and delectable dim sum.

If you like some action with your meal, try **Da Boccery** in Livermore. In addition to its menu featuring pizzas, sandwiches and salads, the eatery offers bocce courts, shuffleboard and axe throwing, among other games.

Prefer to kick back and relax? **Danville Brewing Co.** is your spot. The restaurant boasts exceptional pub food paired with award-winning beers like 925 Blonde and Chux DIPA. For more comfort food in Danville, try **Locanda Ravello**. The eatery embraces the Amalfi Coast with bright dishware and hearty pizzas and pastas, while superior service makes it even easier to savor the luxurious Italian fare.

LUNCH BREAK

THE TRI-VALLEY'S LARGE VARIETY OF LUNCHTIME SPOTS WILL HAVE YOU HUNGERING FOR THE SECOND DINING OPPORTUNITY OF THE DAY.

TAKE IT EASY

With its homey menu and refined decor, **Tri Valley Bistro** on Pleasanton's Main Street is the perfect spot to unwind. Indulge in a glass of wine as you sample the delicious New American cuisine.

For a taste of something different, visit **The Banana Garden Malaysian Cuisine** in Dublin. The flavorful Malaysian menu includes boldly spiced items like belachan string beans and tender chicken satay, while the saltwater aquarium and painted palm trees create a soothing tropical vibe. Also in Dublin is **Burma! Burma!**, where dishes like the tea leaf salad, curry chicken and garlic noodles are highlights of the robust Burmese menu.

For a culinary adventure south of the border, Livermore's family-owned **Posada** is a solid bet. A contemporary take on Southwestern food, Posada is the perfect lunchtime stop before a day of wine tasting.

@FOODIESTEPS88

THE BIG MEAL

THE REGION'S DINING SCENE INCLUDES EXCITING NEW RESTAURANTS AND POPULAR STANDARDS—OFFERING COSMOPOLITAN CUISINE TO PAIR WITH LIVERMORE VALLEY'S MANY FINE WINES.

THE CLASSICS

The Tri-Valley has its share of trusted eateries, including **Terra Mia Ristorante Italiano** in Livermore, which serves authentic Italian fare such as house-made pasta, pizza and other favorites in a welcoming space. Newer to the Livermore scene is **Range Life**. The Michelin-rated restaurant is located in a restored 1800s carriage house—mixing urban and rustic sensibility in food and atmosphere. The seasonally changing menu draws influences from diverse cuisines, and its craft cocktails are an excellent way to round off an evening on the town.

Pleasanton's 1950s steakhouse **Hap's Original** allows for dining in style and comfort. While steak is most definitely the focus here, with the finest dry-aged cuts of beef, the house-made sauces and dressings help elevate already scrumptious dishes.

WORLDLY WONDERS

Authenticity can be tasted in every bite at **11th Tiger Thai Street Café** in Danville. Featuring a blend of street food from various parts of Thailand, 11th Tiger cooks up an extensive and enticing menu of noodles, curries, small bites, soups and more in an intimate space.

Get a taste of Jordan at Livermore's **Petra**. This family-owned eatery is excellent for those trying Middle Eastern cuisine for the first time as well as more experienced eaters. The excellent complimentary cardamom tea and pita are also worth mentioning.

The family behind Pleasanton's **Korean Village** wants you to feel at home in their little village. With congenial service and lovingly cooked, authentic Korean meals like fish cake ramen and soft tofu soup, you'll likely find they've achieved their goal.

Ultrafresh sushi and high-end Japanese fare can be found at **Amakara** in Dublin, where chef Eddy Imano takes as much pride in his colorful presentations as he does in his delicious rolls.

Cocina Hermanas' spacious patio on Danville's bustling Hartz Avenue is an ideal spot to sip a margarita while enjoying Mexican fare spiced with Northern California influences. Using traditional culinary techniques, Cocina Hermanas serves popular street food—think tacos, flautas and grilled corn on the cob—and family-style dishes made from local, sustainable ingredients.

The Yellow Chilli in Danville, from celebrity chef Sanjeev Kapoor, offers an outstanding gastronomic tour of India in an elegant space.



Bridges Restaurant & Bar is a paragon in the Danville culinary world, but classic doesn't mean stuffy. The polished, upscale restaurant, which was featured as a location in the 1993 comedy *Mrs. Doubtfire*, has maintained its buzz-worthy status by fine-tuning its fresh California cuisine with Asian influences.

Revel Kitchen & Bar has been a smash with city sophisticates. The upscale tavern in downtown Danville offers bar bites and small plates, as well as heartier entrees and can't-miss desserts.



HOT SPOTS

Dublin's **Berevino Cucina & Wine Bar** specializes in old-world Italian cuisine and an extensive wine list; it's a great place to have a romantic dinner for two or to sip reds with a big group of friends.

Tucked into Livermore's downtown district, **Sons of Liberty Alehouse** stands out. The menu is typical of gastropubs, but the execution is a cut above—with main courses that offer some unusual complementary sides and take full advantage of fresh, seasonal ingredients.

Sabio on Main, with its delectable dishes and large bar, has become a go-to spot in Pleasanton. Try the three- or five-course pre fixe dinner or treat yourself to executive chef Francis Hogan's 10-course tasting menu for the ultimate dining experience.

Elia is another sophisticated standout in Pleasanton. Thoughtful takes on Mediterranean favorites such as grilled octopus and moussaka are served on the spacious patio or in the open, airy dining room that feels as refreshing as a breeze from the Aegean Sea.

MAKE WAY FOR DUMPLINGS

There's nothing like a dumpling—which can be found in countless shapes, sizes and styles—to satisfy one's craving for comfort food with an international twist. And the Tri-Valley offers numerous delicious versions of this fan favorite.

Start your journey at **Pacific Pearl**, which opened in 2018 on Pleasanton's Stoneridge Drive. **King Wah Seafood Restaurant** features a variety of dumplings on its dim sum menu, including a spinach trio. **Dalian Club House** also provides an intimate experience for savoring fresh, boiled dumplings, while **Fiery Shanghai** serves up memorable Shanghai style and chili oil flavors.

In Dublin, **Mayflower Restaurant** features a considerable dim sum menu, and the pan-fried and steamed dumpling options—including shrimp, scallops and even sea bass—are must-haves. **Koi Palace** at Ulferts Center was Dublin's original dim sum restaurant and serves a variety of dumpling types from northern China, including those with spinach, squid ink, beet and turmeric skins. **88 BaoBao** shifted focus to noodles and steamed dumplings in 2018 and offers steamed leek, pork and shrimp dumplings, as well as pan-fried chicken and pork options. **Golden Sand Harbor** has a robust selection that includes everything from steamed har gow for shrimp lovers to dumplings filled with abalone and sea cucumber or scallop and tobiko.

Finish your dumpling adventure at **Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard** in Livermore, and enjoy the signature steamed dim sum tray featuring dumplings as diverse as shumai, pea sprout and pumpkin (with sea scallops and wild shrimp).

CULINARY EXCELLENCE

THE TRI-VALLEY IS AN AWARD-WINNING DINING DESTINATION.

The exceptional culinary scene has earned recognition at the national and even global level. Recent accolades include California Michelin Guide ratings for **Sabio on Main** in Pleasanton and **Range Life** in Livermore (the latter received a Bib Gourmand Distinction).

Sabio on Main also received a *Wine Spectator* Award of Excellence in 2022, as did Livermore's **Posada** and **Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard** and Danville's **Forbes Mill Steakhouse**.

Sample the best cuisine that the area has to offer during **Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant Week**, held February 24–March 5, 2023. The annual 10-day spectacular includes foodie events and deals at the Tri-Valley's top restaurants, wineries and breweries.

Go to VisitTriValley.com to find out more.



A TASTE OF HOME

LOCANDA WINE BAR'S TULLIO ROSANO BRINGS A DELICIOUS RANGE OF DINING EXPERIENCES TO LIVERMORE.

Locanda Wine Bar chef and owner Tullio Rosano is no stranger to figuring things out on the fly. One in a family of nine children raised in Naples, Italy, he started working at age 13 (against the wishes of his mother, “Mamma Carmela”) at a local restaurant, where he rose from dishwasher to line cook in just six months. So when customers at his new downtown Livermore wine bar started clamoring for some of the heartier dishes available at his family’s other East Bay Locanda restaurants (located in Danville, Lafayette and Pleasanton), Rosano went to work.

Despite not having a full kitchen—no grill, just three ovens—he managed to add popular staples like lasagna, house-made cannoli, rib-eye bistecca and whole cooked branzino to what was originally conceived as a small-bites, wine-friendly menu.

“Everything has to be prepared correctly and then [baked] at just the right moment so we can deliver a nice and fresh product to the table,” he says.

That the transition was so seamless—since debuting in 2021, Locanda has emerged as a go-to drinking and dining destination on hopping First Street—is a credit to Rosano’s skills as a restaurateur. It’s also, he says, a testament to the Livermore community, which has been “so kind and beyond welcoming.”

In particular, Rosano is proud of the range of experiences available at this particular restaurant. Customers can enjoy bottle service in the lounge, pair Italian wine and cheese in the covered outdoor patio (with heat lamps for winter and spray misters in summer), have an intimate dinner at one of the indoor banquettes, or catch a game at the island bar. And one more important carryover from the other Locandas: an unwavering emphasis on hospitality.

“You can count on great service: We always try to establish a friendly environment that’s good for every occasion,” he says. “We try to please everyone here because they are not just our guests, they are our friends and supporters.”

HERE'S THE SCOOP

SAMPLE THE TREATS ON THE TRI-VALLEY'S SWEETEST TRAIL.

- > Start your tour at Danville's **Smallcakes**. While the worldwide cupcake chain is generally known for its, well, cupcakes, stores also make multiple flavors of small-batch ice cream daily. The scoops are often inspired by Smallcakes' famous *gâteau* recipes, which means pairing cake and ice cream is more than possible—it's encouraged.
- > Take a drive to Pleasanton's iconic **Meadowlark Dairy**, California's first certified dairy. Founded in the early 1900s, the store is a nostalgic throwback to the days of local milk shops. Hit the drive-thru for a cone of Meadowlark's signature soft serve ice cream (which can reach half a foot tall).
- > The Pacific Pearl retail center in Pleasanton houses **Snowflake Dessert House**, whose specialties include rolled ice cream (flavors range from matcha supreme to roasted black sesame to strawberry sunshine) and meltingly good shaved ice. You'll also find sweet and savory crepes and a wide selection of tea and coffee beverages.
- > Dig into old-fashioned treats at **Loard's** in Livermore. The creamery has been scooping up delicious cones since 1950, and it proudly proclaims it hasn't changed its ice cream recipe during those 70-plus years. Flavors run the gamut from traditional—chocolate, vanilla and butter brickle—to slightly more modern takes such as ube, sea salt caramel and green tea.



Scan this code to see more about the Tri-Valley Ice Cream Trail.

@EAT.SAR



Pleasanton's **Somisomi Soft Serve and Taiyaki** offers a Korean dessert known as ah-boong, a goldfish-shaped waffle cone stuffed with soft serve and topped with options such as taro, custard and red beans. Or try the taiyaki, a warm, fish-shaped waffle treat packed with those same garnishes.

TREAT YOURSELF RIGHT



To satisfy a different kind of sweet tooth, stop by Livermore's **Wingen Bakery** and pick up a brown butter chocolate chip cookie or an apple cake. For more decadent delicacies, visit **Old Towne Danville Bakery**. This long-standing spot does everything from cakes to cookies; around the holidays, keep an eye out for its special menus. Excellent éclairs, cannolis and macarons are just some of the European goodies at **Primrose Bakery** in Pleasanton. Or head to premier Dublin bakery **Tous les Jours**, which serves up slices of cake that are so aesthetically pleasing that it's difficult to eat them. But not too difficult, because they taste even better than they look.

LIQUID ASSETS

Whether part of an extensive local history or at the beginning of a new movement, the region's winemakers, brewers and spirit creators are at the top of their game.



GRAPE EXPECTATIONS

Decades of craft mean that the Tri-Valley has a rich winemaking history. Continuing that tradition, the 50 wineries in the Livermore Valley are constantly finding new ways to create impressive varietals.

@CHESHIRKAT



Scan this code to see details about Livermore Valley Wine Country and download our wine map.

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Wine Enthusiast Awards

94

2019
Clone 30
Cabernet Sauvignon

93

2018
Cabernet Sauvignon
Reserve

94

2017
Cabernet Sauvignon
Reserve

92

2018
Patriot
Cabernet Sauvignon



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WINE COUNTRY: BY THE NUMBERS

50: Number of Livermore Valley wineries with tasting rooms

118: Number of varietals from Livermore Valley wineries according to *lvwine.com*

139: Number of years that Wente Vineyards, the oldest continuously operated, family-owned winery in the U.S., has been in business

1840s: Decade in which Robert Livermore planted the region's first commercial vines

1889: The year a California wine first bested French offerings at the Paris Exposition, when Livermore's Cresta Blanca Winery was awarded the Grand Prix crown

4,000: Number of vineyard acres in the Livermore Valley

2: Number of summer performances by Livermore Valley Opera at the historic Retzlaff Vineyards

4: Hours it takes to complete the Pedego electric bike tour of the Livermore Valley

12: Maximum number of guests at the new arbor cabanas at McGrail Vineyards; McGrail is also one of many Livermore Valley wineries that takes reservations for outdoor picnics



WINNER'S CIRCLE

SOME OF THE MANY AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS EARNED BY LIVERMORE VALLEY WINES.

The wines of Livermore Valley have a long history of making their mark, starting with Cresta Blanca Winery taking the Grand Prix crown at the Paris Exposition in 1889 (see sidebar for additional Livermore Valley wine facts).

The Livermore Valley brought home 168 awards from the 2022 *San Francisco Chronicle* Wine Competition, the largest competition of North American wines in the world. Las Positas, Darcie Kent, Fenestra, Retzlaff, Page Mill, Garré and Wood Family were among the local favorites that took home Best of Class awards, and Livermore Valley AVA members earned multiple Gold awards as well.

AMONG THE OTHER HONORS RECEIVED BY THE LIVERMORE VALLEY AVA:

> **Concannon Vineyard** earned a Best in Class in the Sunset International Wine Competition for its petit verdot; Fenestra, Las Positas, Murrieta's Well, Wente and Sakura Winery also earned Gold awards.

> **McGrail Vineyards** was recognized at the Critics Challenge International Wine and Spirits Competition for its red blend and cabernet sauvignon.

> **Nottingham Cellars** received Best of Show and Best Red at the 13th annual Livermore Valley Uncorked awards for its micro-lot reserve cabernet sauvignon.



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PICTURE PERFECT

ROSIE FIERRO OF ROSA FIERRO CELLARS FINDS CREATIVE INSPIRATION IN PHOTOGRAPHY AND WINES.

Rosa “Rosie” Fierro exudes an insatiable curiosity for the entire winemaking process, from choosing the small-lot vineyard grapes for her “big, bold, beautiful wines for beautiful people,” all the way to documenting the entire process. The Danville resident’s other creative outlet is photography, and her vivid shots capturing the unique patterns of wine grit left on the bottoms of stainless steel tanks can be seen on Rosa Fierro Cellars’ labels and the walls of its tasting room.

“When you’re taking a photograph, you’re putting together in your mind what you want to capture and then trying to replicate that,” she says. “Winemaking is similar: You’re trying to imagine what the wine is like when it’s finished and figuring out what to do so that it ends up that way. It’s just a lot more complicated to produce.”

Figuring out wine production has been an ongoing fascination for Fierro, who spent years studying, practicing and learning the ropes from other local vintners in her spare time from working full time as a legal assistant in San Francisco. She took the plunge in 2020, officially launching her winemaking facility and tasting room amid an urban-style hub of wineries and breweries on the eastern end of Livermore. Fierro has a direct hand in everything at her 100 percent women-owned operation. Most days, she can be found behind the counter of her tasting room pouring sips of Savvy 2021 sauvignon blanc, 2016 “Call Me a Cab” cabernet sauvignon and the other fruits of her labor. It’s there, after all, where the picture she first envisioned in her mind of running a winery comes into the sharpest focus.

“I love meeting new people and talking in the wine room,” she says. “I can share my passion for my wines, see how customers feel about them and just have a great time.”



TOP TO BOTTOM: COURTESY OF VISIT TRI-VALLEY; COURTESY OF ROSA FIERRO

SHIP WHAT YOU SIP—FOR FREE!



Thanks to the program **Wine Ships Free**, guests staying at participating Tri-Valley hotels get the wine they want shipped directly from participating wineries—without the extra costs of shipping and handling. Here’s why this deal is a no-brainer.

You’ll save money! With **Wine Ships Free**, you don’t have to worry about the extra shipping fees. Simply email your receipt and proof of your hotel stay to wineshipsfree@visittrivalley.com, and the costs will be reimbursed.

Take home some of the best wine in the world from our award-winning wineries, including Concannon, Wente, Nottingham Cellars and more. VisitTriValley.com/wine-ships-free.

A GUIDE TO HOPPINESS

From Danville to Livermore, the Tri-Valley's microbreweries, taprooms and gastropubs offer the latest and greatest in beer. But with so many bars and taps to sample, how do you choose? Not to worry—here's a handy guide to help you get your drink on.



COURTESY OF VISIT TRI-VALLEY



Danville Brewing Co.



BottleTaps

DINING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

HANKERING FOR A SAVORY BITE WITH YOUR BEER? THESE RESTAURANTS AND PUBS ARE SURE TO SATISFY.

- > **Beer Baron Bar & Kitchen** / The Pleasanton location offers delicious lunch and dinner (plus brunch on the weekends), while the Livermore spot has a cool speakeasy vibe that's perfect for date night. Enjoy its rotation of 20-plus craft beers along with cocktails, and pair with a selection of mac and cheese dishes (options include Hot Cheeto buffalo chicken). beerbaronbar.com

- > **BottleTaps** / BottleTaps is more than just a craft-brew taproom; it's a beer education center. Run by Eric Wall, the only certified beer judge in Pleasanton, this upscale joint offers a variety of to-go beers in its retail coolers, from the well-known to the more obscure but still delicious, that will pair nicely with tasty tapas. bottletaps.com

- > **Danville Brewing Co.** / The centrally located restaurant serves creative, well-executed burgers, along with an enticing selection of sandwiches, bowls and hearty entrees. The food pairs perfectly with Danville Brewing's craft brews, including award-winning IPAs. danvillebrewing.com

- > **First Street Alehouse** / This Livermore alehouse is the locals' go-to spot for drinking and dining, with a tempting array of sandwiches and burgers and 28 rotating beers on tap. Admire the wall of 6,000 rare beer cans, the country's largest public collection. firststreetalehouse.com

- > **The Growler** / Featuring 20 rotating taps of local craft brews, this Danville bar and restaurant specializes in mouthwatering burgers, with meat supplied by famed butcher Pat LaFrieda. For beer on the go, browse the impressive on-site bottle shop for great picks. growlerpubdanville.com

- > **Hop DeVine Craft Beer & Wine** / With some 20 beers on tap and a menu of delicious crowd-pleasers (think juicy burgers, sandwiches, and fish and chips), Livermore's Hop DeVine is the perfect place for a casual bite in a friendly atmosphere. hopdevine.net

- > **World of Beer** / Check out Dublin's World of Beer for a rotating list of domestic beers, along with brews from around the globe. Pair your drink with wings, nachos or international dishes such as bibimbap or a giant Bavarian pretzel. worldofbeer.com

BEER PIONEER

HOW STEVE SARTORI BROUGHT CRAFT BEER BACK TO THE TRI-VALLEY.

Steve Sartori, brewer and founder of **Altamont Beer Works**, says that his journey to creating Altamont started when the economy tanked. Prior to the financial troubles that affected the U.S. in 2008, Sartori had been the manager of a wakeboard shop in Tahoe, but when the recession hit, he headed home to Livermore to work for the decades-old family trucking business.

“When I came back,” Sartori explains, “I said, ‘We have all these wineries; why don’t we have a brewery?’”

Sartori certainly fixed that in 2012, bringing Livermore its first brewery since Prohibition and paving the way for a local craft beer renaissance. It wasn’t easy—90 percent of Altamont was hand-built by the Altamont team, with no outside contracting. “It was really a labor of love,” says Sartori.

With its laid-back vibe and clean, flavorful beers, Altamont made a strong first impression on Tri-Valley natives and visitors new to the beer scene. In fact, the impression was so strong that the brewery expanded into the space beside its original taproom in 2018. The hashtag accompanying the Instagram announcement post seems nearly prophetic: #ifyoubuildittheywillcome.



WHAT'S BREWING

DISCOVER EXCITING BEERS AT THESE MICROBREWERIES.

> **Altamont Beer Works** / This long-standing microbrewery jump-started Livermore's beer scene. Try the crisp Mac Drizzle Silver ale, or go extreme with Hella Hopp. altamontbeerworks.com

> **Danville Brewing Co.** / Danville Brewing Co. cooks up delicious pub eats to pair with house beers, canned brews, craft cocktails and wines. danvillebrewing.com

> **Homegrown Hops** / Located among the valley's famed wineries, this Livermore original includes bocce courts, cornhole and picnic tables. homegrownhopsbeer.com

> **INC 82 Brewing** / This Dublin hot spot pays homage to local history in its decor and moniker (the city was incorporated in 1982), as well as serving craft beers and pub grub. inc82.com

> **Main Street Brewery** / Grab a pint at this Pleasanton favorite that offers multiple house beers along with a dozen rotating guest taps. facebook.com/mainstbrewery

> **Pennyweight Craft Brewing** / This popular Livermore gastropub offers exciting house brews along with a rotating guest selection. pennyweightbrew.com

> **Rivers End Brewing Company** / Freshness is the name of the game at this brewery in Livermore that crafts small-batch suds. riversendbrewing.beer

> **Shadow Puppet Brewing Company** / This Livermore brewery creates unique tastes using traditional techniques and uncommon ingredients. shadowpuppetbrewing.com

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TRI-VALLEY ICE CREAM TRAIL



HERE'S THE SCOOP! Taste your way through the Tri-Valley with your choice of soft serve, sundaes, gelato, ice cream sandwiches and more from our collection of local ice creameries. Visit five participating stops on the trail to win your very own ice cream scoop to use at home. Here on the sunny side of the bay, the Tri-Valley Ice Cream Trail is one of the tastiest ways to satisfy your sweet tooth.



TRI-VALLEY BEER TRAIL



DRINK LOCAL BEER AND SCORE SOME SWAG! The Tri-Valley Beer Trail is a curated collection of exclusive deals and discounts from the best breweries, alehouses and taprooms in the Tri-Valley. Our mobile-friendly passport is available on any device with no purchase required. Check in at 10 participating stops to win beer swag or go the extra mile and visit every stop on the trail to win a 64-ounce growler!





Boba Bliss

WAKE-UP CALL

ENERGIZE YOUR DAY WITH A JAUNT ALONG THE TRI-VALLEY CAFFEINE TRAIL.

If your ideal way to start the morning—or finish up the afternoon—is with a cup of coffee, the Tri-Valley Caffeine Trail is for you. See the list of participating coffee shops and upload photos from five stops at VisitTriValley.com to earn a Tri-Valley mug—all while enjoying tasty snacks, savory teas or the perfect cup of joe along the trail. Here are five not-to-be-missed cafes.

- > **Boba Bliss** / Dublin's Boba Bliss uses high-quality Stumptown coffee beans and organic tea to create its beverages. With ingredients such as honey boba and lychee jelly, its drinks are palate-pleasers.

- > **The Press** / At the ever-popular Press (with locations in Livermore and Pleasanton), you'll find meticulously crafted paninis, salads and more, all made with fresh, seasonal and organic ingredients. The extensive drinks menu offers a wide variety of excellent coffees, teas and lemonades.

- > **Rosetta Roasting** / "Great coffee runs in our blood," claim the proprietors of Livermore-based Rosetta Roasting, and their handcrafted, high-quality coffee drinks prove it's true. Not only does the cafe offer flavor-packed beverages made with time-tested techniques, but it's also the place to find creative "latte art" gracing your cup.

- > **Sideboard Neighborhood Kitchen and Coffee Bar** / Danville's Sideboard serves up breakfast, lunch and dinner in a relaxed, homey environment. Enjoy an artful espresso drink made from Sightglass beans or a cup of green tea, and pair your beverage with a fresh beignet (weekends only)

- > **Tea Heart** / Check out this Dublin spot's delicious bubble teas, which include toppings such as tapioca balls, popping boba and fruit jelly.

HIT THE TRAIL

MORE WAYS TO EXPLORE THE TRI-VALLEY'S CAFFEINATED CULTURE.

DANVILLE

- > Medleno Coffee
- > Starbucks Reserve

DUBLIN

- > AJ's Coffee
- > Cafe Tapioca
- > Tea Heart

LIVERMORE

- > Panama Bay Coffee Co.
- > The Steam House Coffee & Kava Bar
- > Story Coffee

PLEASANTON

- > Bobafinitea
- > Honey Tea
- > Inklings Coffee & Tea



Scan this code
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about the
Tri-Valley
Caffeine Trail.

TIME

OUT

The Tri-Valley's wealth of recreational activities (with everything from golf to mountain biking), plus its variety of retail outlets and multitude of choices for culture (and car) lovers, make staying inside not only silly, but a crime against nature.



DANIELLE POFF

Lake Del Valle

GET A MOVE ON

The Tri-Valley promises exceptional landscapes and recreational opportunities for every skill level. Whether you travel by bike, golf cart or your own two feet, head to the great outdoors to explore the region's natural wonders.



TRI-VALLEY: 3 WAYS

1. THE COUCH POTATO (EASY)

At Livermore's Lake Del Valle—the focal point of **Del Valle Regional Park** and an angler's delight—you can reel in trout, striped bass and catfish, or just contemplate the water, sky and hills. Rent a canoe or motorboat for fishing, or cast from shore—just make sure to get a fishing permit from the park. ebparks.org/parks/del_valle

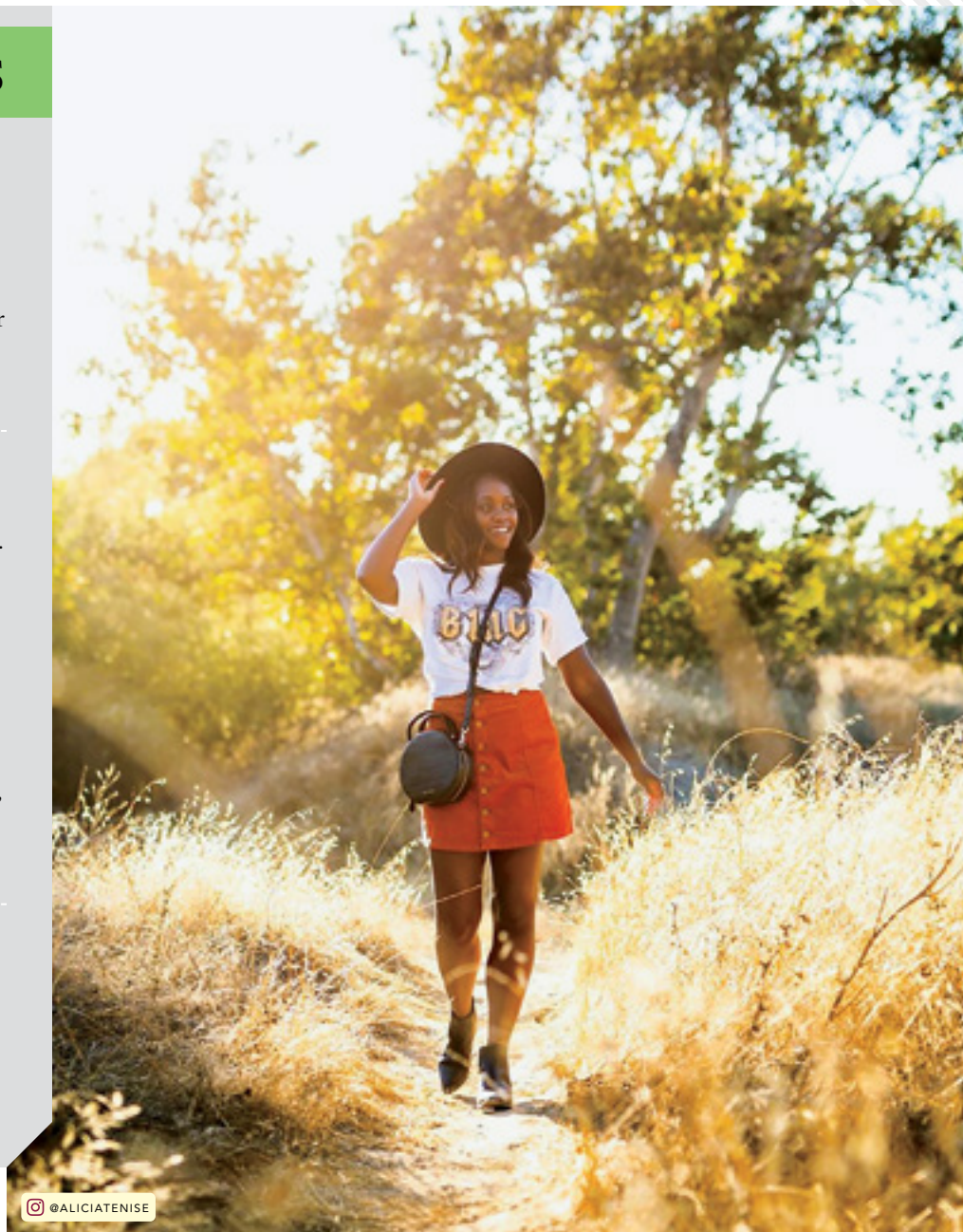
2. THE WEEKEND WARRIOR (MODERATE)

The views from atop **Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park** are breathtaking—literally. The hike from the Foothill Staging Area, located just off Highway 680, up to the Thermalito Trail and the Ridgeline Trail is a bit of a climb but worth the sweat. The Castleridge trailhead allows for exploration of the northern ridgeline of the park—after a steep climb, of course. ebparks.org/parks/Pleasanton

For those who prefer aquatic activities, you can skim over **Lake Del Valle** on a rented stand-up paddleboard (from \$20). outbackadventures.com

3. THE SUPERMAN (CHALLENGING)

Hike to the summit of **Mount Diablo** for a pulse-quickening workout. Start at Curry Point in Blackhawk and take the Curry Canyon Trail for a strenuous 5.4-mile hike that provides magnificent views of the Tri-Valley the whole way. parks.ca.gov/mountdiablo



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GREAT GREENS

GET YOUR GAME ON AT DISTINCTIVE TRI-VALLEY GOLF COURSES.

If you are looking for a round with a view, it's hard to beat **The Course at Wenté Vineyards** in Livermore. Grapevines and oak-dotted hills flank the Greg Norman-designed course, where golfers encounter plenty of challenges and thrills. Overlooking the tricky 18th hole, The Grill offers a casual menu and full bar. wentevineyards.com/course

For more great risk/reward play, head to the back nine at Pleasanton's **Callippe Preserve Golf Course**. The greens are complex, so be sure to treat yourself with a visit to the Vista Restaurant, which offers sandwiches, burgers and a view of the surrounding nature preserve. playcallippe.com

Rees Jones designed the gorgeous **Poppy Ridge** on 3,000 acres in Livermore, with three nine-hole courses that demand the best from players. Afterward, take in the scenery over lunch at The Grill. poppyridgegolf.com

The nine-hole course at **Pleasanton Golf Course** at the Alameda County Fairgrounds is suited to all abilities and budgets. Perfect your swing at the facility's nearby driving range and recharge at the clubhouse, which serves salads, sandwiches and beverages. pleasantongolfcenter.com

With nine- and 18-hole options, **Las Positas Golf Course** in Livermore offers both challenge and fun. Its signature hole nine is a dogleg left par 4 measuring 427 yards. Raise a glass after the game at the course's lively and family-oriented Beeb's Sports Bar & Grill. laspositasgolfcourse.com

With lots of par 3s, **Dublin Ranch Golf Course** is a shorter course that is long on interest, offering a few surprises as well as great wraparound views. At the course's snack bar, order burgers, sandwiches, nibbles and a selection of beverages. dublinranchgolf.com

LIFE CYCLE

ENJOY THE AREA'S RUSTIC BEAUTY ON TWO WHEELS.

IRON HORSE REGIONAL TRAIL

The 20-foot-wide paved trail is a flat, easy ride that goes through Danville, Dublin and Pleasanton. Great for a leisurely trip, the route connects directly to the Dublin/Pleasanton BART station.

DEL VALLE REGIONAL PARK

For spectacular lakeside vistas and trails of varying difficulty, head to Del Valle Regional Park. Try the out-and-back ride along the east side of the lake for a route with challenging climbs and exhilarating dips.

MOUNT DIABLO STATE PARK

For off-road enthusiasts, Mount Diablo State Park offers a handful of mountain biking trails, featuring steep hills, thrilling descents and the Diablo sunflower—a rare indigenous plant. Make sure to visit Rock City and the wind caves!

Check out VisitTriValley.com for self-guided bike routes and information on bike rentals.



LIVE AND LEARN

These museums and education centers will spark a sense of wonder about the past, present and future.

BLACKHAWK MUSEUM

The main event at this Danville establishment is a rotating fleet of iconic cars. Other sections spotlight the spirit of the Old West, China's rich history and African art. The latest addition, World of Nature, focuses on the planet's diverse species and ecosystems. blackhawkmuseum.org

MUSEUM ON MAIN

Delve into Pleasanton's history with artifacts and images of the Ohlone people, Spanish and Anglo settlers, World War II's expanding population, and today's dwellers. Rotating exhibitions add layers of historical depth, while a kids' corner provides hands-on activities. The museum also hosts free walking tours and the annual Ghost Walk, showcasing the town's most haunted sites every Halloween. museumonmain.org

EUGENE O'NEILL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Eugene O'Neill, the only American playwright to win a Nobel Prize, reached the peak of his powers at Danville's Tao House, which he built on

158 bucolic acres in 1937, and where he lived through 1944. Here, he wrote *Long Day's Journey into Night* and *The Iceman Cometh*, among other masterworks. Combining elements of Asian and Spanish design, Tao House is now a museum where you can view O'Neill's desk, manuscripts and photos; in September, the Eugene O'Neill Festival showcases live performances. nps.gov/euon, eugeneoneill.org

MUSEUM OF THE SAN RAMON VALLEY

Visitors to this restored 1891 Danville train depot can explore the lives of early Native Americans, Gold Rush settlers and their successors. museumsrv.org



Blackhawk Museum



Above: Danville resident Eugene O'Neill with his dog, Blemie, in 1931.

Right: Learn about local history at the Museum on Main in Pleasanton.



LAWRENCE LIVERMORE NATIONAL LABORATORY DISCOVERY CENTER

The Discovery Center introduces kids and adults to the inner workings of the famed Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. The Virtual Discovery Center offers remote tours of the lab's National Ignition Facility and National Atmospheric Release Advisory Center. lnl.gov/community/discovery-center

DUBLIN CAMP PARKS MILITARY HISTORY CENTER

This museum-quality history center offers visitors the opportunity to learn about the Camp Parks military base—established during World War II—which helped transform Dublin from a rural community into the dynamic city it is today. dublin.ca.gov/1916

DUBLIN HERITAGE PARK & MUSEUMS

Clustered on 10 acres, a Craftsman house, a simple white church, a schoolhouse and a cemetery tell the story of the Tri-Valley in the 1800s and early 1900s. In the school, interactive exhibits reflect the region's history, and a playhouse allows for make-believe. Self-guided tours of the house provide insights into Dublin's agricultural history. dublin.ca.gov/269

CAR TALK

CELEBRATING CLASSIC RIDES IN THE TRI-VALLEY.

CARS AND COFFEE LIVERMORE

Join other auto enthusiasts for this monthly Livermore car meetup (held the third Saturday of every month from April to November). The event is family friendly, and all makes and models are welcome. carsandcoffeelivermore.com

GOODGUYS ROD & CUSTOM ASSOCIATION

At Pleasanton's Alameda County Fairgrounds, the Goodguys Custom & Rod Association presents three Get-Togethers and the West Coast Nationals during the year. More than 3,000 hot rods, custom cars and muscle cars are on hand, along with lowrider displays, award contests and a kids' zone. good-guys.com

HOT SUMMER SUNDAYS CAR SHOW

On one Sunday in both July and August, Danville welcomes the Hot Summer Sundays car show. Hundreds of classic cars and cool hot rods pull into town for this fun community event. dhsscs.com



TOP TO BOTTOM: COURTESY OF EUGENE O'NEILL NHS; BRYAN COSTALES; COURTESY OF VISIT TRI-VALLEY

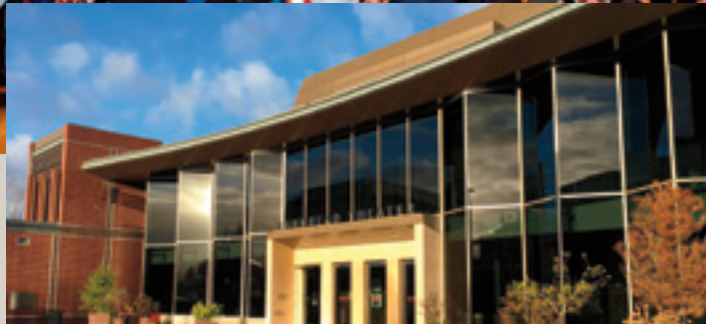
LIVERMORE VALLEY
arts

See what's on stage at the Bankhead! Our line-up includes world-class musicians, side-splitting comedians, accomplished speakers, dazzling dance, and so much more. We have something for everyone!

Photo by Marie Gregorio-Oviedo



Academy Award-Winner
Marlee Matlin



The Bankhead Theater, nestled in the heart of Downtown Livermore, can be rented for performances, lectures, meetings, and conferences.



Ukulele virtuoso
Jake Shimabukuro

Bankhead Theater 2400 First St. Downtown Livermore | LivermoreArts.org | 925.373.6800
Always Free Parking

CHARM

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DISCOVER



HAVE YOU SEEN?
MOM?
PLEASANTON MUSEUM ON MAIN

603 Main Street, Pleasanton
(925) 462-2766
www.museumonmain.org

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JUST THE TICKET



The Bankhead Theater hosts a wealth of cultural acts, including the classic sounds of Doo Wop Project Christmas.

The stage is set in the Tri-Valley, with a rich performing arts scene that includes theater, comedy, music, dance and more.

ONSTAGE AND ON VIEW

The **Bankhead Theater** brings some 40 to 60 touring artists to Livermore each year. The lineup includes dance troupes, Grammy-winning singers, comedians and other performers. The **Bothwell Arts Center** also showcases free, themed art exhibitions. livermorearts.org

The **Village Theatre** in Danville presents classic plays with contemporary overtones (think Arthur Miller and George Orwell), as well as music and children's theater. danville.ca.gov/226/Village-Theatre

In Pleasanton, the intimate **Firehouse Arts Center** spotlights musicals and comedy, as well as jazz, folk and other music genres, from both big names and local stars. The Firehouse also hosts Museum on Main's popular speaker series. Visitors shouldn't miss the **Harrington Gallery**, which typically features seven group exhibitions per year from local and regional artists. firehousearts.org

AT THE WINERIES

The play's always the thing at the summertime Shakespeare in the Vineyard program from the **Shakespeare & Performing Arts Regional Company**; capping an evening of Shakespearean comedy with a glass of chardonnay at Darcie Kent Vineyards is a not-to-be-missed experience. Music lovers: Discover up-and-coming bands at the **Almost Famous Wine Lounge** and enjoy musical events at area wineries throughout the year (find out more at VisitTriValley.com). sparctheater.org, almostfamouswine.com

Its comedy program puts the "laff" in Retzlaff Vineyards. Fans can picnic and watch the Livermore winery's **Comedy Uncorked** summer shows; musical buffs come for a concert calendar that extends through the fall. comedyuncorked.com, retzlaffvineyards.com

AT THE MOVIES

Dinner and a movie is usually a two-step process. But Livermore's **Vine Cinema & Alehouse** combines the outings, making it one of the best date-night spots in the Tri-Valley. The theater screens first-run, classic and indie films, while moviegoers pair local craft beers and wine with pizza, chicken strips and other nibbles. vinecinema.com

AT THE PARKS

Enjoy the sweet sounds of summer at free hot-season concert series in several Tri-Valley towns, including ones at **Emerald Glen Park** in Dublin, **Oak Hill Park** in Danville and **Lions Wayside Park** in Pleasanton. dublin.ca.gov, danville.ca.gov, pleasantondowntown.net

SHOP TALK

From high-end outlets to malls to charming boutiques, the area offers many opportunities for retail therapy.

With 180-plus stores, **San Francisco Premium Outlets**, located in Livermore, takes some time to navigate. But when exploring, savvy shoppers can find great deals on luxury lines. Options run from the trendy (Rag & Bone) to traditional (Brooks Brothers), upscale (Armani) to basic (Gap Factory). And though the majority of shops lean high end, popular bargain spots rub elbows with the grander brands.

Gems like Kate Spade supply color and sophistication in women's accessories and jewelry: From playful purses to signature watches, the store provides a multitude of quirky options. Just a few steps away is Burberry, where beautifully tailored coats line the walls and an array of handbags shows off the brand's iconic tartan. At Gucci, the glam factor is evident in everything from ready-to-wear apparel to accessories.

Do your tastes tend toward expensive footwear? Then walk this way. Purchase a sweet pair of Jimmy Choos, and strut down the street like it's your personal runway. Or go for the eye-catching designs in bold colors at the Prada outlet.

If shopping whets your appetite, the outlets host 15 eateries, from Johnny Rockets and Chipotle to Chicken Now and Villa Fresh Italian Kitchen. But for a more exotic break, head across the street to the Pacific Pearl shopping center. This area boasts 39 restaurants, many with an Asian cuisine focus. Notable are Japanese chain Kura, which serves dozens of different sushi rolls on a revolving belt, and Fiery Shanghai, which promises to light up your taste buds with Szechuan and Shanghai cuisine.

premiumoutlets.com/outlet/san-francisco

Check out VisitTriValley.com for our shopping trail at the outlets!



Above: San Francisco Premium Outlets features more than 180 stores, including popular stops such as Bloomingdale's and Saks Fifth Avenue Off 5th.

INSET: TIM TOONEN



Whim House
in Danville

GETTING THE GOODS

CONSIDER THE NATIONAL RETAILERS AT STONERIDGE SHOPPING CENTER IN PLEASANTON OR STROLL THESE TRI-VALLEY STREETS FOR ONE-OF-A-KIND FINDS.

- > **Hartz Avenue** cuts through historic downtown Danville with a wealth of charming shops. Even if you don't have much of a sweet tooth, Sweet Street is worth a visit for the eye candy alone. Whim House spotlights a charming selection of contemporary home goods. For a variety of curated, high-quality CBD and hemp products, visit America's Finest Hemp Co.

- > **Main Street in downtown Pleasanton** is a treasure trove of singular shops. Check out Primm Boutique, which specializes in boho-chic clothing for women. Therapy Stores stocks funky, stylish home goods and gifts, as well as ultracool accessories. Stop by the locally owned general bookstore, Towne Center Books, for literary needs.

- > **Dublin's Hacienda Crossings** on Dublin Boulevard is anchored by a giant Regal Cinemas building with multiple screens, including an IMAX. Hit the larger stores like Old Navy and Barnes & Noble, then head to a restaurant (such as Kobe Pho & Grill) before capping off your outing at the movies.

- > **First Street in Livermore** is all about local boutiques stocked with items locals love. Don't miss the Olive Oil Pantry and Tasting Room, which is a great place to sample top-quality infused olive oils and balsamic vinegars in a wide variety of flavors. Pop into First Street Wine Company to taste and purchase vino from the Livermore Valley wine region.

TOP: COURTESY OF VISIT TRI-VALLEY

FARMERS MARKET FINDS

SHOP FOR FRESH PRODUCE AND LOCALLY CRAFTED TREATS AT FARMERS MARKETS THROUGHOUT THE TRI-VALLEY.

DANVILLE

Grab your market bag; head to downtown Danville; and fill up on delicious apples, berries and farm-fresh veggies. For some top-notch proteins, make sure to stop at Victorian Farmstead Meat Company or Prather Ranch. Held year-round, Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 205 Railroad Ave. pcfma.org/danville

DUBLIN

Emerald Glen Park hosts farmers, bakers and falafel makers (along with many other food purveyors) from April through September. Groove to tribute bands and other fun, fabulous acts while you shop, thanks to the free Summer Concert Series held June to August in the amphitheater. Thursdays, 4-8 p.m., 4201 Central Parkway. pcfma.org/dublin

LIVERMORE

There's not one, but two options for agricultural discoveries, live entertainment and local eats in Livermore. The year-round farmers market is held on Second Street between J and L streets on Sundays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The Thursday Night Livermore Downtown Market takes place in Carnegie Park (located at 2115 Third St.), 4-8 p.m., from April to October. livermorefarmersmarket.org

PLEASANTON

You'll discover regional goodies such as honey, jams, olive oil, breads and handcrafted cheese, along with fruits, vegetables and more at this year-round market. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 46 West Angela St. pcfma.org/pleasanton

IN GOOD COMPANY

From blissful weddings to family reunions to business conferences, the Tri-Valley is the ideal location for special events. Keep that convivial vibe going with spa experiences, wine and beer tastings, golf outings, and other recreational adventures that can turn a one-day happening into a fun-filled trip that inspires memories that last a lifetime.



The Club at Castlewood



Left: The Purple Orchid Wine Country Resort & Spa in Livermore.

Below: Coffee at Danville's Sideboard.



TAKE A BREATH

RELAX AND REJUVENATE WITH A WEEKEND OF SHOPPING, SPA TREATMENTS AND A SAMPLE OF LIVERMORE VALLEY'S FINE WINES.

- > Skip Starbucks and head straight to **Sideboard Neighborhood Kitchen and Coffee Bar** in Danville for a potent cup of joe. Coffee not your speed? Don't worry: They've got mimosas, bellinis and spicy bloody marys, too. Indulge in puffy beignets or maple whipped cream-topped French toast while planning your itinerary on the sunny patio or in the eclectic dining area—complete with a sideboard, of course. sideboard.co

- > Dive into the world of retail at the **San Francisco Premium Outlets** in Livermore—the largest outlet center in Northern California. For small-shop style, head to Main Street in Pleasanton or Prospect Avenue in Danville, where local fashionista faves such as **Primm Boutique** and **Flaunt Boutique** will help you keep on trend. premiumoutlets.com/outlet/san-francisco, shopflaunt.com

- > Say goodbye to stress and hello to the calming wonders of **The Purple Orchid Wine Country Resort & Spa** in Livermore. Get revitalized with a bliss-inspiring relaxation massage or the Ashiatsu Deep Feet Bar Therapy treatment, a luxurious 50-minute experience that combines Swedish oil massage with deep pressure from the therapist's feet. purpleorchid.com

> Need to “wine” down? Take in the scenery at one of the numerous beautiful wineries in Livermore Valley Wine Country, where tasting flights await. Reserve a spot on the **Livermore Wine Trolley** and sip sans stress. livermorewinetrolley.com

> Channel your inner Picasso at the Danville outpost of **Pinot's Palette**, where wine and paint join forces to release even the most suppressed creative spirits. Enjoy stroke-by-stroke instruction, with a paintbrush in one hand and a glass of sauv blanc in the other. pinotpalette.com/danville

> If your relaxing day has left you craving an evening of live music and libations, head to **Pairings** in Pleasanton. The contemporary wine bar—which has the appealing motto of “sip, savor, social”—features entertainment on Fridays and Saturdays, as well as perfect wine pairings throughout most of the week. The menu includes plenty of shareable plates as well as assorted cheese and charcuterie flights. pairingsubwr.com

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LIVERMORE VALLEY
WINE COUNTRY**



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SEE THE SITES

PLAN YOUR SPECIAL EVENT AT THESE TOP VENUES.

EVENT CENTER & TERRACE LAWN AT WENTE VINEYARDS

Wente's Spanish-style event center offers a dramatic setting while the Terrace Lawn makes for an enchanting outdoor location.

THE PURPLE ORCHID WINE COUNTRY RESORT & SPA

Say your vows with the olive orchard and California sunset behind you, then adjourn to the banquet hall for dancing and dining after dark.

CASA REAL AT RUBY HILL WINERY OR PALM EVENT CENTER IN THE VINEYARD

With outdoor and indoor options of all sizes, these two properties operated by Beets Hospitality Group have the perfect location for any party or corporate happening.

BELLA ROSA AT GARRÉ VINEYARD AND WINERY

The state-of-the-art facility still manages an old-world charm, and the grounds are just as impressive as the chandelier-decked interior.

RIOS-LOVELL, RETZLAFF OR CROOKED VINE & STONY RIDGE WINERIES

These wineries have unique event spaces, such as Rios-Lovell's White Wedding Gazebo, Retzlaff's tree-lined walk and Crooked Vine & Stony Ridge's Barrel Room.

MURRIETA'S WELL

One of California's original wine estates, Murrieta's has stellar food and service fit for a perfect occasion.

REINSTEIN RANCH

Give your occasion a Western vibe. The antiquated barn adds intimacy to wedding ceremonies, and the grassy fields are a lovely setting for pictures.



GROUP DYNAMICS


WHETHER YOU WANT A NIGHT OUT WITH FRIENDS OR A TEAM-BUILDING OUTING, THE TRI-VALLEY IS READY TO PROVIDE.

- > Play a round at one of the Tri-Valley's 14 lovely golf courses. Wager a bet at **The Course at Wente Vineyards**—designed by Greg Norman—or flex your mastery on the notorious par-5 No. 18 at **Callippe Preserve Golf Course** in Pleasanton. wentevineyards.com/course, playcallippe.com
- > Grab your bike and helmet, then pedal to the top of **Mount Diablo State Park** to soak in views of the Sierra Nevada, Lassen Peak and, on a clear day, Yosemite's Half Dome. parks.ca.gov
- > Auto enthusiasts will find a collection of treasures at the **Blackhawk Museum**. You don't have to be car crazy to Instagram the "rolling sculptures" for instant social media approval. blackhawkmuseum.org
- > Gather some buddies and hit the **Tri-Valley Beer Trail**. Check in at 10 stops with your passport and earn free stuff. Keep the party going at **Altamont Beer Works** in Livermore, **Main Street Brewery** in Pleasanton, **Three Sheets** in Dublin or **The Growler** in Danville. altamontbeerworks.com, mainstreetbrewery.com, threesheetscraftbeer.com, growlerpubdanville.com
- > Get ready to throw down at **Da Boccery** in Livermore. Along with multiple bocce courts (both indoor and out), you'll find shuffleboard, arcade games, cornhole and, yes, axe throwing. Fuel up on pizza, small plates and sandwiches—along with beer, wine and cocktails. daboccery.com
- > Attention, carnivores: Pull over when you see the neon sign for **Hap's Original** in Pleasanton, a New York-style steakhouse that features dry-aged beef, seafood and handcrafted cocktails. If beer and bites are more your vibe, pull up a stool at **World of Beer** in Dublin for a deeply satisfying lunch, dinner or "beerunch" (or, beer brunch). haptoriginal.com, worldofbeer.com

Oakland International Airport welcomes you

When visiting the Tri-Valley, OAK is the closest and most convenient airport to use. We also offer a full range of ground transportation options to get you to the Tri-Valley quickly. OAK even has an easy to use on-airport rail station where BART, the Bay Area Rapid Transit, departs every 6 minutes during peak periods with stops throughout the Tri-Valley. Plan your trip today by first clicking to IFLYOAK.com and discover what it means to Fly the East Bay Way.

OAKLAND
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WHERE TO EAT

DANVILLE

Blue Line Pizza The signature deep-dish at this modern pizza parlor is phenomenal, packing spinach into a buttery cornmeal crust with feta and a garlicky rough-cut tomato sauce that seals the deal. Spicy chicken wings don't get any better, and the salads are bold and beautiful. 550 Hartz Ave., 925.362.3295, bluelinepizza.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Blue Sakana Blue Sakana's waterside lounge reels in passersby to a piscine paradise. The sushi is always pristine, the rolls imaginative and the entrees perfectly executed. 3496 Blackhawk Plaza Cir., 925.648.7838, bluesakana.blackhawk.com. Lunch Fri.–Sun., dinner Tues.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Bridges Restaurant & Bar Despite its long history, Bridges remains remarkably fresh. Its refined, Asian- and French-accented menu shows both creativity (comice pear and baby spinach

salad and kimchi vinaigrette) and craftsmanship (New York steak with edamame and bacon). Famous for its scene in the 1993 film *Mrs. Doubtfire*, Bridges has a stunning atmosphere (including the garden patio) that is timeless. 44 Church St., 925.820.7200, bridgesdanville.com. Lunch Mon.–Fri., dinner daily, brunch Sat.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Cielito Cocina Mexicana With its made-to-order griddled tortillas and Western theme, Cielito has soul. It also boasts natural light and whimsical furnishings. The food is not cheap, but the upscale tacos are a great value, and the meats rock—especially the carne asada and the carnitas (try the hash at brunch). Skip the chewy ceviche and start with a drink instead; the Diablo margarita is a winner. 445 Railroad Ave., 925.725.4732, cielitodanville.com. Lunch and dinner daily, brunch Sat.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Cocina Hermanas Affordable gourmet tacos are reason enough to hit the wraparound patio at Cocina Hermanas, but this hacienda's cool bar and inventive platillos principales are equally seductive. Tasty tacos—try the Hermanas Trio—and dense, mole-like enchiladas are always winners.

501 Hartz Ave., 925.725.4161, cocinahermanas.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Crumbs This umbrella-festooned eatery offers hearty American breakfast and lunch standards every day. 428 Railroad Ave., Ste. B, 925.838.8824, crumbsdanville.com. Breakfast and lunch daily. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Danville Brewing Co. With its curved bar and wraparound patio, this on-site brewery is a looker. Try one of the eight grass-fed burgers (The DBC with red onion jam is our fave) with one of the 20 on-tap brews. Or cut loose with a craft cocktail and an upscale pub offering, such as honey-licked boneless fried chicken. 200 Railroad Ave., 925.217.4172, danvillebrewing.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Danville Harvest The country-chic, farm-to-table restaurant showcases elevated comfort food with a Southern twang. Fried chicken sliders, scallion hush puppies and a packed country breakfast plate (at brunch) are seductive samples. With a vibrant bar and lounge, and a homey yet stylish dining room with a full-exhibition kitchen, Danville Harvest welcomes all comers. 500 Hartz Ave., 925.362.3665,

danvilleharvest.com. Brunch Sat.–Sun., lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Esin Restaurant and Bar It has a reputation for fine dining, but Esin is more of a classy neighborhood bistro, attracting friends and families with its affordable “small” plates and dinner specials. House-made pastas, pot roast, and comforting cakes and pies, along with weighty flatware, crisp service and a serious wine list add up to one of Contra Costa County's most consistently excellent restaurants. Depending on your mood, choose seating on the casual patio or in the stately dining room. 750 Camino Ramon, 925.314.0974, esinrestaurant.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Forbes Mill Steakhouse With its expansive lounge, Forbes feels like a Las Vegas-style steakhouse. Check out the white anchovy-dressed Caesar salad, the panko-crust crabcakes and buttery Kobe steaks. The wine list boasts powerful Napa Valley reds that can stand up to the meat. 200 Sycamore Valley Rd. W., 925.552.0505, forbesmillsteakhouse.com. Dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

The Grille at Blackhawk Expect sterling service,

Key to Symbols

🍷 Cheap (\$10 or less per dinner entree)

🍷🍷 Inexpensive (\$11–\$17)

🍷🍷🍷 Moderate (\$18–\$24)

🍷🍷🍷🍷 Expensive (more than \$25)

🍷 Wine and beer

🍷 Full bar

🍷 Outdoor dining

🍷 Private room parties of 50 or more

🍷 Late-night dining (service after 10 p.m.)

🐾 Dog friendly

🐾 Dog friendly (when seasonal patio is open)

Restaurant reviews are courtesy of Diablo magazine. Pick up a copy for more East Bay listings.

Cal-American fare, and a fun and festive vibe highlighted by one of the best outdoor patios in the area. The tavern-style burger satisfies, while the mac and cheese's creamy bechamel-spiked three-cheese sauce and panko-parmesan breadcrumbs lend decadent adult appeal to kid-friendly Kraft-style noodles. The tender bacon-wrapped meatloaf is another comforting treat. 3540 Blackhawk Plaza Cir., 925.736.4295, thegrilleatblackhawk.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Incontro Ristorante A gorgeous patio and a stately dining room are the backdrop to Incontro's

soulful Italian menu. We began with a simply amazing fritto misto and moved on to a Gorgonzola, pear and candied walnut salad—drizzled with honey—which doubled as dessert. 455 Hartz Ave., 925.820.2349, incontrodanville.com. Lunch Sat.–Sun., dinner Tues.–Sun., brunch Sun. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Locanda Ravello

With its genial courtyard and cottage-cum-bar, Locanda Ravello is built for hospitality.



Scan this code for a complete list of Tri-Valley restaurants.

Epicurean pizza toppings (porcinis, burrata, prosciutto di San Daniele) and plates served with gusto (such as Mamma Carmela's meatballs) represent just two aspects of an extensive menu—with a wine list to match. 172 E. Prospect Ave., 925.984.2101, ravello-danville.com. Lunch Fri.–Sun., dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷🍷🍷

Luna Loca *Luna loca* is Spanish for crazy moon, but there's nothing crazy about the food or the setting here. Traditional specialties shape the menu, with a prominent place held by the chicken, beef, shrimp, and vegetarian fajitas. Grab a table on the porch if you can. 500 Sycamore Valley Rd. W., 925.831.3644, lunolocadanville.com. Lunch and dinner daily, brunch Sat.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷

Norm's Place The menu at this automobile-themed casual eatery changes regularly, but staples include traditional comfort food items, including wings, burgers, ahi tacos and a spicy chicken wrap. Salads and sandwiches are fresh and reasonably priced. 356 Hartz Ave., 925.552.6676, normsgrill.com.



Scan this code for a complete list of Tri-Valley restaurants.

Lunch and dinner Tues.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

The Peasant and the Pear Chef Rodney Worth serves smart salads and sandwiches, such as the Sedona: chicken, green chile and provolone. If you go for dinner, don't miss the lamb shank and specialty martinis, such as the signature Pear-tini. The heirloom tomato salad (seasonal) and crostini with house-made burrata also impressed. 111 West Prospect Ave., 925.820.6611, rodneyworth.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Pete's Brass Rail and Car Wash It's all mythology and microbrews at Pete's, where there's nobody named Pete and certainly no place to get your wheels washed. No, the headliners here are the burgers and the locals who fill the place with stunning regularity. In summer, there's no better place than Pete's patio—with a cold beer from the impressive rotating selection. 201 Hartz Ave., 925.820.8281, petesbrassrail.com. Lunch and dinner Tues.–Thurs. 🍷🍷🍷

Piatti Ristorante and Bar Although part of a chain, Piatti is one of the best Californian-Italian restaurants in the Tri-Valley, with dishes such as ricotta gnocchi, house smoked salmon tartar and fried calamari. The grilled flat iron steak is juicy, and the well-

trained waitstaff will help you choose a wine to match. 100 Sycamore Valley Rd., 925.838.2082, piatti.com. Lunch and dinner daily, brunch Sun. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Player's Pub & Pianos The American pub fare strikes just the right note: a melty grilled cheese on garlic sourdough, a fried chicken sandwich and burgers galore. The dueling pianos—Friday and Saturday nights only—are a riot. 148 E. Prospect Ave., 925.743.8466, playerspubpianos.com. Dinner Tues.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Revel Kitchen & Bar Revel is the hipster complement to Curtis deCarion's staterie Danville restaurant, Esin. Entrees such as braised short ribs rock, but the menu's thrust is bar snacks and small plates. We loved the garlicky hummus, and shrimp and grits. Desserts, famously homey at Esin, get an upscale twist. 331 Hartz Ave., 925.208.1758, revelkitchenandbar.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Sideboard Neighborhood Kitchen and Coffee Bar Order at the counter, select mismatched silverware, and wait for consistently delicious dishes to be delivered in a rustic and quirky



dining area. The cooking style here might best be described as "grandma gourmet." Favorites include mac and cheese, and chicken salad with Pt. Reyes Blue Cheese, bacon and avocado. Great coffee and desserts. 90 Railroad Ave., 925.984.2713, sideboard.co. Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

The Yellow Chili The Yellow Chili, offering a greatest-hits gastronomic tour of India, is chef Sanjeev Kapoor's most popular and recognizable brand. The *amritsari machchi*—a delicious Punjabi spin on British fried fish, in which the moist white fillets' batter is enhanced by Indian spices—arrives on a platter decorated with flowers and colorful swirls of sauce. The *murgh angara bedgi*—earthy, tandoori-roasted tikka chicken enlivened with *bedgi* chiles—rests atop a splash of cool raita yogurt. The kitchen doesn't shy away from standards such as butter chicken. 710 Camino Ramon, 925.698.6560, theyellowchillidanville.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷

Zalla Kabob House In true Afghan style, Zalla's cuisine is brightly spiced and satisfying. The kebabs will fill you up, but it's worth starting with appetizers of dolma and hummus. We also loved the rich, complex lamb shanks at this darling order-at-the-counter cafe. (All meats are kosher.)

202 Sycamore Valley Rd., 925.208.1403, zallakabobhouse.com. Lunch and dinner Tues.–Sun. 🍷🍷

DUBLIN

Amakara The long-time neighborhood sushi favorite raised its profile with a swanky new location on Dublin's main drag, bringing space for more diners, extended hours and a showy kitchen. The food is as good as ever. Creative takes on sushi include the architectural (and Instagrammable) spicy sesame seared-tuna roll: Tempura asparagus spears shoot in various directions, some wrapped with avocado and cucumber inside the fish- and jalapeno-topped roll. For entrees, ask for the fish of the day, or stick to salmon teriyaki—crispy on the outside, ridiculously soft inside. 7568 Dublin Blvd., 925.803.8485, eatamakara.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷

The Banana Garden Malaysian Cuisine This roomy and stylish restaurant is a cross-cultural experience. Start with the roti pratha, a crispy bread with toasted-curry coconut sauce. The mango chicken is plump and moist. Clusters of slick noodles are just one of the intriguing textures in the seafood char koay kak. Finish with an irresistible fried-banana dessert. 4100 Grafton St., 925.248.2854, thebananagarden.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷

Bangkok 101 Thai Cuisine The space is small but chic, and the kitchen serves authentic yet original dishes prepared in a simple, clean fashion. We love the fried chicken wings, ground chicken sautéed with lemon grass and fried glass noodles with jumbo shrimp. The som tam (papaya salad) is one of many vegetarian dishes on the menu. 7375 Amador Valley Blvd., Ste. 100, 925.828.2133, bangkok101dublin.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷

Burma! Burma! Tucked into an unassuming strip mall is a culinary journey to Myanmar. Start with a traditional tea leaf salad, move on to minted jalapeno chicken with extra heat from sambal chili sauce, and wash it all down with a Myanmar Lager. Black sticky rice makes a sweet finish, with brown sugar, coconut milk, condensed milk and a scoop of ice cream. 7294 San Ramon Rd., 925.556.6188, burmaburma.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷

Chaat Bhavan Restaurant Do you want fresh, authentic vegetarian Indian cuisine? Head straight to family-run Chaat Bhavan. The flavorful stir-fried Hakka noodles are a popular choice, as is the Tandoori Sizzler, made with cheese and vegetables. And make sure to order the house-made samosas, as well as naan, roti or paratha. 4112 Grafton St.,

925.829.1700, chaatbhavan.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷💰

Coco Cabana Hip and friendly, Cabana has a Latin-fusion menu that includes tasty small plates: Think lamb lollipops, pork belly chicharron and various tacos. The shrimp al ajillo and ample, herbed beef meatballs were both winners, as was a wonderfully tart shrimp ceviche. Entrees are more hit or miss, but cocktails are well executed. Do not skip the awesome beignets with dulce de leche caramel. 4500 Tassajara Rd., Ste. C, 925.556.9055, cococabanadublin.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🐾💰

Denica's Real Food Kitchen Denica's is the place to go if you have multiple personalities. Part pastry cafe, part lounge, Denica's serves up just about anything—and does it well. The breakfast menu runs from huevos rancheros to killer cinnamon rolls. (Ask to have yours warmed.) At lunch, look for tasty sandwiches and salads. Order a snickerdoodle to go. 6058 Dougherty Rd., 925.829.6200, denicascafe.com. Breakfast and lunch daily. 🍷🐾💰

Frankie, Johnnie and Luigi Too! This small Bay Area chain is family friendly and offers standard Italian fare. There's a multitude of pasta courses, with reduced prices at lunchtime, and

specialized pizzas. (Carnivores should sample Tina's Too Too Much, with salami, pepperoni, sausage and linguica.) For groups of four to five, try Frankie's family dinner night. 11891 Dublin Blvd., 925.828.9380, frankiejohnnieuigidublin.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Gum Kuo This Oakland follow-up has a welcoming burnt-umber decor and dishes ranging from comforting to daring. Comforting is the delicate tofu and snappy pumpkin hot pot. A whole crispy-skinned pompano requires dexterity but is remarkably moist. Gum's chow fun—slick with egg and slippery shrimp—is a sweet companion to beautifully bronzed duck. 3720 Fallon Rd., 925.999.8627, gumkuorestaurant.com. Lunch and dinner Tues.–Sun. 🍷💰

Hot Crab You won't find an ordinary shrimp boil at this Louisiana Cajun seafood restaurant; your catch comes bathed in a garlicky chili-infused oil whose heat runs from "mild" to "volcano." Easy-to-slurp clams and meaty head-on shrimp are rewarding, but serious crackers can opt for a heap of crawfish or pricey king crab. 4288 Dublin Blvd., 925.999.9580, hotcrabus.com. Lunch and dinner Wed.–Mon. 💰

Koi Palace With its lush green carpeting, fresh orchids and lily pad motif, this dim sum house is easily

one of the most elegant in the Tri-Valley. We loved the spinach dumplings bursting with steamed greens. Also wonderful:



tender pork buns, chewy pot stickers and Chinese broccoli with oyster sauce. And that's just for starters. 4288 Dublin Blvd., Ste. 213, 925.833.9090, koipalace.com. Lunch and dinner Wed.–Mon., brunch Sat.–Sun. 🍷💰

KoJa Kitchen You'll find inventive Asian fusion dishes at KoJa—short for Korean-Japanese. Think sandwiches on garlic rice buns and rice bowls featuring tender proteins such as braised pork, short ribs or chicken. Don't miss the kamikaze waffle fries topped with minced barbecue beef, kimchi, Japanese mayo and green onions. 5252 Dublin Blvd., 925.587.1503, kojakitchen.com. Lunch and dinner daily. \$

Lee's Sandwiches This San Jose food truck turned chain focuses mainly on Asian and European sandwiches. The Vietnamese banh mi is the star, with pickled vegetables and house-made baguettes, available in a dozen varieties, from grilled chicken to shrimp to lemon grass tofu. Or get it in a bowl, with noodles, greens and

dressing. Don't miss the surf-and-turf spring rolls or the cannoli stuffed with ricotta and chocolate. 4101 Dublin Blvd., Ste. B, 925.828.8888, leesandwichesdublin.com. Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily. \$

Mayflower Restaurant Whether it's stunning pork buns or dazzling shellfish pulled from the live seafood tank, Mayflower presents authentic Cantonese cuisine with style. The pork buns, seafood dumplings and juicy pot stickers are best bets. Try at least one traditional Cantonese dish, and for familiar fare, go for the silky chow fun with slivers of barbecue pork and the ultrafresh lettuce cups. 4086 Grafton St., 925.551.8088, mayflowerdublin.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷💰

Yanagi Sushi and Grill The contemporary dining room is divided into three sections—a sushi bar, a teppan area and regular booths. We were taken with chicken yakitori skewers and delicate tempura shrimp and veggies. The adventurous should try the heart attack roll appetizer, with fried jalapenos, cream cheese and spicy tuna. 6599 Dublin Blvd., 925.556.9575, yanagisushigrill.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷💰

LIVERMORE

Bar Quote A cocktail destination, where veteran mixologist Christian Schaal and husband-and-wife team Lauren

Heanes-Longwell and Waine Longwell focus on the artisanal spirits of Mexico. The lime-washed walls, Oaxacan ceramics and a custom hickory bar evoke a contemporary spin on the type of border-town watering holes found in a Sergio Leone spaghetti Western, while the menu includes a variety of hot dogs and bar snacks. 112 Maple St., barquote.com. Lunch Fri.–Sun., dinner Wed.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷

Bar Tatami This attractive Asian restaurant inside Casino 580 is surprisingly good. We indulged in dazzling chicken wings, beef sliders, fish tacos and a decadent all-American burger stuffed with rich goodies. If you gamble, the food can be brought to your betting table—where a diverse \$5 casino menu is also available. Check out the bountiful 580 breakfast. 962 N. Canyons Pkwy., 925.800.0076, parkwestcasino580.com. Breakfast Tues.–Sun., lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷

Casa Orozco The family-owned Casa Orozco restaurants in the Tri-Valley are about comfort food in a loud, festive atmosphere. The menu includes all the Mexican standards—tacos, burritos, fajitas—which are fresh, filling and a cut above. Casa Orozco is pretty inside and out: Opt for the patio on a warm afternoon with an appetizer of house-made guacamole. 325 S. L St., 925.449.3045,

casaorozco.com. Lunch and dinner Tues.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷

Cinco TacoBar The humble taco is elevated here, with tortillas pressed and cooked to order. Grab a carne asada or al pastor taco, a burrito bowl or a Dutch crunch torta, and don't miss the Instagram-ready wall art. 4526 Las Positas Rd., 925.583.5300, cincotacobar.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷

Da Boccery Clever, clever ... but how often does bocce ball lead to debauchery? Still, fun is fun, and there's plenty on offer here: elevated pub fare (sandwiches, burgers, tacos, pizza and more), craft cocktails, bocce, shuffleboard, axe throwing ... wait, what? Maybe there is some debauchery going on. 175 East Vineyard Ave., 925.201.3353, daboccery.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷

Demitri's Taverna Meals start with heated pita bread and a garlicky spread called skordalia. The tender dolmathes come with a tangy avgolemono sauce, and the village salad uses kalamatas and briny feta for a salty counterpoint to the fresh veggies. A Mediterranean burger brings the flavors of Greece—oregano, feta, tomato and grilled red onion—into each juicy bite. 2235 First St., 925.373.0306, demitristaverna.com. Lunch and dinner Tues.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷

El Charro Mexican Food and Cantina

The full bar and festive-yet-relaxed ambience have turned a family operation into a modern Livermore standout. The restaurant, triple the size of the First Street original, features smoked pork chops for carnivores, chili rellenos for vegetarians and killer enchiladas for anyone. Still skeptical? The El Charro margarita, made



with agave nectar, could very well be the best drink in town. 186 Maple St., 925.371.8297, elcharrolivermore.com. Lunch and dinner Tues.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷

Elevation LVK Let your culinary experience take flight at this restaurant overlooking the runways at Livermore Municipal Airport. A seasonal menu showcasing traditional favorites, a wine list that includes a variety of Livermore wines, and striking views are just some of the highlights. 682 Terminal Circle, 925.800.3839, elevationlvk.com.



Scan this code for a complete list of Tri-Valley restaurants.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner Wed.–Sat., brunch Sat.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷

First Street Alehouse Share a giant basket of onion rings—and a local pint or two—on the sunny patio, and call it lunch. Or stay cool in the expansive brewpub, where you're bound to find a burger, salad or grilled chicken sandwich with your name on it. The food isn't fancy, but you can't match First Street Alehouse's indulgent, unpretentious vibe. Meals end with a Tootsie Pop. 2106 First St., 925.371.6588, firststreetalehouse.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷

Hops and Sessions Taproom and Restaurant This pour-your-own beer pub is a wide-open communal space with picnic-size blonde-wood tables, a wall of 28 rotating taps, and a "starting line" where you scan your driver's license and credit card in exchange for a wristband. The beer selection is well rounded with many local brews. The pub food is above average, with sausages, a crispy chicken sandwich and a killer wedge salad on offer. 2339 First St., 925.495.4118, hopsandsessions.com. Lunch and dinner Tues.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷

The Last Word Trade your Coke for a cocktail and get truffle salt instead of butter on your popcorn at this

hip saloon behind Livermore Cinemas. Pair a Paper Plane (bourbon, aperol and amaro) or a Southside (gin, mint and lemon) with upscale sandwiches, salads, tapas—including lobster manchego mac and cheese!—or paella. 2470 First St., 925.493.7293, lastwordbar.com. Dinner Wed.–Sat. 🍷🍷🍷

Locanda Wine Bar Owner Enzo Rosano has created a fun, whimsical, drinking-centric space that evokes an Italian osteria. For the food, that means an emphasis on light eats such as an antipasti plate for two, beautifully composed salads, and several tartare and carpaccio dishes. For drinks it means an expansive wine list heavy on Italian, Napa and Livermore labels. And for the ambience it means a lively setting with a bright, colorful front patio. 2293 First St., 925.583.5016, locandawinebar.com. Lunch and dinner Tues.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷

Monica's Livermore Housed in a soulful brick building with a fantastic shaded patio, Monica's specializes in big, homey plates of traditional breakfast and lunch fare and simple, from-scratch pastries. While our Reuben sandwich and crab omelet were so-so, a hearty huevos rancheros and two grilled chicken salads were standouts. Pickles, jam and most everything else are made in-house.

2074 Second St., 925.292.5568, monicalivermore.com. Breakfast and lunch daily. 🍷🍷🍷

Petra Middle Eastern Authentic Cuisine This small family-run restaurant offers Jordanian dishes as authentic as you'll find anywhere in the Bay Area. Solicitous service and plenty of freebies—including cardamom tea and creamy lentil soup—make it a homey gold mine. The classics—falafel, hummus, baba ghanoush and tabbouleh—are all extraordinary. 4524 Las Positas Rd., 925.371.0412, petra-livermore.com. Lunch and dinner Tues.–Sun. \$\$

Posada After a remodel, Posada has twice the seating, a wine cellar and an expanded menu—the offerings are particularly wonderful at brunch, when diners can nosh on sublime huevos rancheros, meaty enchiladas, shrimp tostadas and stuffed poblano pepper. Happily, the Southwestern restaurant's spicy mahi-mahi tacos and lush short ribs with blackberry mole are as good as ever. 988 Murrieta Blvd., 925.606.1004, posadarestaurant.com. Lunch and dinner Tues.–Sun., brunch Sat.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷

The Press With a walk-up counter that flows into minimalist yet spacious decor, the Press serves fresh, creative and

affordable toasts and paninis, attracting crowds of all ages. The triple roast beef cheese jalapeno panini is as lush as a sandwich can be while the BLET with egg (and Hobbs' Applewood Smoked Meats bacon) and side salad was delicious. 2470 First St., Ste. 110, 925.292.1916, thepressartisancafe.com. Breakfast and lunch Thurs.–Tues. 🍷🍷🍷

Range Life Four New York and San Francisco restaurant veterans (Tartine Manufactory!) relocated to Livermore and transformed a former carriage house into an urban-hip eatery serving seasonal fare such as summer squash curry and steak frites paired with craft cocktails. 2160 Railroad Ave., 925.583.5370, rangelifelivermore.com. Dinner Thurs.–Mon. 🍷🍷🍷

Roya Afghan Cuisine Roya offers something for everyone and offers everyone a great value. Try a beef, chicken, lamb or salmon kebab—or a combo of two proteins. Try the challaw badenjan, a lush eggplant stew, or wedges of sweet pumpkin that are smothered in yogurt in the challaw kadu. Owner Friedoon Yawary ensures a smooth ride in a cozy dining room. 2020 First St., 925.447.0576, royaafghancuisine.com. Lunch Tues.–Fri., dinner Tues.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷

Sauced BBQ and Spirits Stacks of wood, banks of TVs and the alluring smell of smoke create a warm feeling at this family-owned barbecue joint. The ribs, smoked half chicken and burgers are all tasty. From the lengthy choice of sides, we liked the baked beans and cornbread best. Start with a green salad so you can finish with fried Oreos. 2300 First St., Ste. 120, 925.961.1300, saucedbbqandspirits.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷

Simply Fondue There's nothing simple about Simply Fondue. The average table time is two hours, and the experience is as much spectacle as meal. The four-course dinner starts with a salad, followed by generous samplings of cheese and meat fondue. Wrap it up with a personalized chocolate fondue (get the Grand Marnier). 2300 First St., 925.443.6638, simplyfonduelivermore.com. Dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷

Star Anise Modern Thai Cuisine The Thai–Southeast Asian food here lives up to its sleek atmosphere. Island finger lumpia are served with a mild and balanced carrot-plum sauce. The Panang beef is amazingly tender and delicious. Pumpkin-salmon curry showcases squash and seafood in a provocative red peanut curry. Aromatic roasted duck comes off the grill flavorful

and meaty. 2470 First St., Ste. 108, 925.454.9888, staranisethai.livermore.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷

Strizzi's Restaurant Enjoy a taste of old-world Italy at this homey eatery that specializes in fish and pasta, made from family recipes with the freshest ingredients. Try the wood-grilled chicken, steak or salmon, along with specialties such as rigatoni Bolognese or spaghetti and meatballs. The kids' menu has plenty to offer for little diners. 2205 First St., 925.456.2200, strizzis.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷

Terra Mia Ristorante Italiano A soaring brick fireplace; gleaming open kitchen; and warm, professional service impart an intimate feel to the cavernous dining room. The Calabrian owners have built on this soulful aesthetic with made-from-scratch bread, pastas and thin-crust pizzas. They get all the basics right: The fish is fresh, and the meats are clean—seasoned well and



served with simple sides. 4040 East Ave., 925.456.3333, terramialivermore.com. Dinner Tues.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard With a classy decor and wine list, Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard has an enticing and leisurely vibe. So enjoy a lovely Alsatian white with spinach dumplings—soft noodlelike wrappers exploding with fresh spinach, shrimp and chicken. Or try the crisp-roasted free-range chicken with red chili–flecked sweet sauce. Desserts, like the wines, are above average. 39 S. Livermore Ave., 925.449.7000, uncleyuvineyard.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Zephyr Grill and Bar The all-day menu lists some 26 main courses—40 when you include salads and sandwiches. Some hidden deals include thick slabs of seared tuna, and a lemon cheesecake. Tall, window-side booths are sleek, but dine at the bar if you want to sense the scene. You'll find a fantastic selection of Livermore Valley wines. 1736 First St., 925.961.1000, zephyrgrill.com. Lunch and dinner Wed.–Sun., brunch Sat.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

PLEASANTON

Blossom Vegan Restaurant An immediate hit, this vegan paradise has a distinctive Vietnamese edge. Everything is so fresh. Don't miss the green papaya salad, curried eggplant or mu shu wrapped in Indian pancakes.

A tropical mural sets a nurturing tone in the relaxed yet bustling dining room. 4000 Pimlico Dr., Ste. 112, 925.399.5232. Lunch and dinner Tues.–Sun. 🍷🍷

Blue Agave Club This "club" provides genuine Mexican delicacies such as earthy huitlacoche "truffles" on plump, succulent shrimp, and chicken enjococado in sour cream sauce. A gorgeously grilled skirt steak stars in a platter that includes chicken mole, chili relleno, grilled green onion and guacamole. The outdoor patio is heaven, and there are more tequilas than you can count. 625 Main St., 925.417.1224, blueagaveclub.com. Lunch and dinner Wed.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Bocado—Un Petit Bistro Bocado is the kind of place everyone would welcome in their neighborhood. Tuck in for a cappuccino or smartly curated alternatives that include panini, pressed sandwiches, salads and, most unusually, ceviche. Crepes are the main attraction and the centerpiece of the menu, with flavors ranging from the classic—egg and cheese; lemon, sugar and butter—to more off the beaten path, such as Thai chicken with potatoes, carrots and red curry, and velvety tiramisu with espresso and mascarpone filling. We highly recommend the expertly executed pesto chicken. 320 Saint Mary St.,

925.425.0229, bocado-un-petit-bistro.ueniweb.com. Breakfast and lunch Tues.–Sun. \$\$

BottleTaps This 30-tap-strong Cali-focused ale-house with open-hearted service and a ferment-friendly food menu takes beer seriously—with no pretension. The greaseless Cubano sandwich, garlicky house pickles, and smorgasbord of meats and cheeses prove that hearty needn't be heavy. The spacious, brick-accented dining room warmly belies its strip mall locale. 3020 Bernal Ave., Ste. 160, 925.201.1755, bottletaps.com. Lunch and dinner Tues.–Sun. 🍷🍷

Cellar Door Tempting small plates, artisan cheese and charcuterie boards, and a variety of flatbreads complement the cocktails and an expansive rotating wine list. 4469 Railroad Ave., 925.846.3667, ourcellardoor.com. Brunch Sat.–Sun., dinner Tues.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷

China Lounge Allen Shi's \$1.2 million baby is a must-visit. A theatrical open kitchen, pulsing bar and refined dining room complement moist ribbons of bang bang chicken; sublime crispy pork belly soup; and bold kung pao chicken made with tongue-numbing peppercorns, bright lemon grass and a thin but darkly caramelized sauce. 4220 Rosewood

Dr., 925.227.1312, chinaloungeus.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

De La Torre's Trattoria of Pleasanton De La Torre's offers reasonably priced family favorites—from spaghetti and meatballs to veal scallopine. We especially love the not-too-sweet marsala sauce. Dinner specials include petrale sole and stuffed pork chops. You can even join a "call list" for seasonal cioppino and crab lasagna. 6025 W. Las Positas Blvd., 925.484.3878, delatorres.net. Lunch Mon.–Fri., dinner Mon.–Sat. 🍷🍷🍷

Eddie Papa's American Hangout This affordable spot has a family-friendly menu as long as a cross-country road trip, but—spiked with historical tidbits and a full page of classic cocktails—it's worth the ride. Enjoy jambalaya, a Reuben or boneless Southern fried chicken (complete with lumpy mashed potatoes) in a spacious, skylit dining room. 4889 Hopyard Rd., 925.469.6266, eddiepapas.com. Brunch Sun., lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Elia Like a Mediterranean breeze, Elia blows onto Pleasanton's Main Street with a light and easy manner. The menu's mezette starters offer a plethora of appealing options in which healthy ingredients like feta, olive oil, olives, eggplant, garlic and yogurt

make repeat cameos. There's no mistaking the tender grilled octopus: It comes out as a single curling fire-charred tentacle atop baby arugula and embedded amid slices of orange, chilled purple potato and kalamata olives. A whole sea bass is served with crispy-fried skin enveloping moist white flesh. 310 Main St., Ste. A, 925.399.6921, eliapleasanton.com. Lunch and dinner daily, brunch Sat.–Sun. 🍷🍷🍷

Experience Burma Burmese cuisine echoes the affordable, flavorful and shareable qualities of Indian and Thai food yet is wholly distinctive. The tea leaf salad—tossed at the table—bursts with crunchy nuts, seeds and jalapeno. Wok-fried lemon grass pork is tender and aromatic, while glistening mango shrimp balances sweet sauce with chiles. Warm wood and contemporary lighting are offset by colorful marionette dolls. 221 Division St., 925.398.8219, theexperienceburma.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🍷

Frontier Spice Indian Cuisine This attractive spot is known for its tandoori dishes. Alongside meaty kebabs, you'll find lime-scented salmon and pimento sea bass, both flash-roasted in the tandoor. Get the tandoori mix grill: chicken tikka seasoned three ways and served sizzling (and super succulent). The curries

are good, but trust the tandoor—and double up on the garlic naan. 411 Main St., 925.846.3077, thefrontierspice.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🔥🍕💰💰

Gay Nineties Pizza Co. Always hopping with birthday parties and post-soccer-game festivities, this pizzeria and pasta house is the quintessential family restaurant. The secret of the signature pizzas is the crust: The house-made sourdough is aged and cold-stored for five to seven days before cooking. The oldest pizza parlor in the Tri-Valley, the mainstay's atmosphere remains cozy. 288 Main St., 925.846.2520, gayninetiespizza.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🔥🍕💰💰

Hap's Original Hap's has been around since the 1950s and has evolved into an upscale steakhouse. Complimentary crudités and Hap's namesake salad topped with walnuts, Gorgonzola and honey-chili vinaigrette are refreshing starters. The filet mignon with brandy peppercorn sauce (one of five sauce choices for steaks) is even better with a side dish of grilled artichokes. 122 W. Neal St., 925.600.9200, hapsoriginal.com. Dinner daily. 🍷🔥🍕💰💰💰

Jim's Country Style Restaurant Sure, we try to look out for our arteries, but sometimes Kashi cereal with fruit just

won't cut it. Jim's has the stuff: ranch-style omelets with biscuits and gravy, hearty pancakes, and sugar-sprinkled French toast—all served until 4 p.m. At lunch, try the triple-decker barnyard club. When all is lost, order the heaping platter of chicken-fried steak. 5400 Sunol Blvd., Ste. 1, 925.426.7019. Breakfast and lunch daily. 🍷🔥🍕💰

Locanda Amalfi Master pizzaiolo Francesco Esposito hails from Naples, Italy, and the menu at Locanda Amalfi heavily features his blistered, thin-crust creations. (Gluten-free crust is also available.) A classic margherita doesn't disappoint, but make sure to try the surprisingly light and delicious Meat Lover, topped with pepperoni, pancetta and saliccia. Another winner: the peppery, garden-fresh Costiera with cherry tomatoes, arugula and wild salmon. A Brussels sprouts appetizer was too toasty, but the char was tempered by the salty sweetness of the bacon and balsamic glaze. Mamma Carmela's meatballs are classic comfort, covered in tangy marinara, with crostini for dipping. Finish it all off with tiramisù—or better yet, a limoncello cake that matches the restaurant's hand-painted Italian pottery. 349 Main St., 925.249.5484, locanda-amalfi-pleasanton.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🔥🍕💰💰

Lokanta Mediterranean Grill and Bar A Turkish word meaning *neighborhood bistro*, Lokanta is at once exotic and familiar. A clean open kitchen dishes up a Greek salad along with branzino and paella. The skylit back dining room makes for some of the best summer dining in the East Bay. Grab a pillow, and enjoy heavenly lamb shish kebab and a glass of Turkish wine. 443 Main St., 925.223-8074, eatlokanta.com. Lunch and dinner daily, brunch Sat.–Sun. 🍷🔥🍕🐾💰💰

McKay's Taphouse and Beer Garden You'll feel right at home in the buzzing beer garden at McKay's. Try the Jammin' Burger slathered with bacon jam or a Cubano sandwich, properly pressed with the mandatory pickles. Soft fresh-baked pretzels and crunchy chips had the right salty goodness for pairing with an array of all-local craft beers. 252 Main St., 925.425.0217, mckaysbeergarden.com. Lunch Wed.–Sun., dinner Tues.–Sun. 🍷🔥🍕🐾💰💰

Nonni's Bistro Born in Iceland, owner Jon Magnusson borrows freely from Italian, French and American traditions, specializing in comfort foods with just a touch of California froufrou. Check out warm goat cheese crepes, capery bistro steak salad and, of course, anything with Magnusson's magnificent

smoky lox, made with sustainable Loch Duart salmon from Scotland. 425 Main St., 925.600.0411, nonnibistro.net. Lunch and dinner daily, brunch Sat.–Sun. 🍷🔥🍕🐾💰💰

Oasis Wine Lounge At this stylish Mediterranean spot, check out the pumpkin borani appetizer—its dense orange flesh sauteed in olive oil, its sweetness set off by a garlic-yogurt sauce. The tender, juicy lamb chop kebab has had just the right brush with the grill. The chicken breast curry with peppers is a deeply satisfying mix of vivid flavors served over basmati rice. 780 Main St., 925.417.8438, oasiswinelounge.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🔥🍕💰

Oyo Like its colorful logo, Oyo made a bright and bold entrance on the downtown dining scene when it launched in 2019. The menu explores the flavors of the ancestral homelands of the Guyanese people, such as jerk chicken from the Caribbean, curry goat from East Asia, pepper pot from West Africa and South American paella. A tropical banana bread pudding with coconut ice cream and pineapple glaze makes a sweet finish. 680 Main St., 925.249.5936, oyopleasanton.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🔥🍕💰

Sabio on Main This is a sophisticated restaurant that just wants to have fun.

The three- or five-course tasting menu changes seasonally (for a truly decadent experience, try the chef's 10-course tasting menu); a la carte dishes are available on the patio and at the bar. 501 Main St., 925.800.3090, sabiopleasanton.com. Dinner daily, brunch Sat.–Sun. 🍷🔥🍕🐾💰

SideTrack Bar and Grill Whether you're after a classic Reuben or Cubano sandwich, or any number of drool-inducing wagyu burgers in artisanal buns, this is your spot. The dining room is a sea of tables flanked by a slick sports bar, but the craft beers, wines and cocktails are a cut above. Non-meat eaters can enjoy a myriad of vegan options, and seafood-goers will appreciate the appetizers, including a tower of avocado and ahi poke, crab-cakes and shellfish ceviche. 30 W. Angela St., 925.399.6789, sidetrackeats.com. Lunch and dinner Wed.–Mon., brunch Sun. 🍷🔥🍕🐾💰

Sozo Sushi Sozo means creative in Japanese, and this neighborhood sushi bar lives up to the name. Sure, you could order the classics: unagi (barbecued eel) or spicy tuna hand rolls. But why, when the menu boasts 30 "creative maki" rolls? The notable options range from the Marilyn Monroll—with shrimp tempura, crab and avocado—to the Monterey—a mix of shrimp and jalapenos. 2835

Hopyard Rd., 925.484.5588, sozo-sushi.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🔥🍕💰

Tri Valley Bistro With its warm earth tones and unobtrusive service, Tri Valley Bistro offers a measure of old-fashioned romance. Start with wine and a lush arrangement of prosciutto, dried figs and delicately crusted warm goat cheese. Follow with succulent scallops nestled in black rice rich with sherry cream. The focus here is less farm-to-table than luxury. 519 Main St., 925.523.3815, trivalleybistro.com. Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🔥🍕💰

Zachary's Chicago Pizza Bring on the deep-dish pizza. The Bay Area favorite stuffs its pies with cheesy goodness, zesty sauce and a variety of ingredients that will satisfy every taste. The thin-crust options are also delicious. 337 Main St., 925.600.0089, zacharys.com. Lunch and dinner daily. 🍷🔥🍕💰





Four Points by Sheraton, Pleasanton

Key to Symbols

- Dog friendly
- Pool
- Fitness Center
- Kitchen
- Meeting Space
- Comp Breakfast



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DANVILLE

1. Best Western Danville Sycamore Inn
803 Camino Ramon
925.855.8888

DUBLIN

2. Aloft Dublin-Pleasanton
4075 Grafton St.
925.248.8500

3. Extended Stay America Dublin-Hacienda Drive
4500 Dublin Blvd.
925.875.9556

4. Holiday Inn Dublin-Pleasanton
6680 Regional St.
925.828.7750

5. Hyatt Place Dublin/Pleasanton
4950 Hacienda Dr.
925.828.9006

6. La Quinta Inn & Suites
6275 Dublin Blvd.
925.828.9393

LIVERMORE

7. Americas Best Value Inn
1421 First St.
925.447.3865

8. Best Western Plus Vineyard Inn
7600 Southfront Rd.
925.456.5422

9. Courtyard by Marriott
2929 Constitution Dr.
925.243.1000

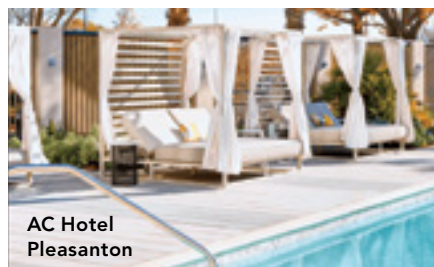
10. El Dorado Inn
3979 First St.
925.447.2348

11. Extended Stay America Livermore
2380 Nissen Dr.
925.373.1700

12. Hampton Inn
2850 Constitution Dr.
925.606.6400

13. Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham
1700 N. Livermore Ave.
925.606.6060

14. Hilton Garden Inn
2801 Constitution Dr.
925.292.2000



AC Hotel Pleasanton

15. Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites
3000 Constitution Dr.
925.961.9600

16. Home2 Suites by Hilton Livermore
2625 Constitution Dr.
925.960.1242

17. Homewood Suites by Hilton Livermore
5400 Wolf House Dr.
925.606.1984

18. La Quinta Inn & Suites by Wyndham Livermore
7700 Southfront St.
925.373.9600

19. Motel 6
4673 Lassen Rd.
925.443.5300

20. Premiere Suites
720 Las Flores Rd.
925.443.4950

21. The Purple Orchid Wine Country Resort & Spa
4549 Cross Rd.
925.606.8855

22. Quality Inn & Suites
5959 Preston Ave.
925.606.7171

23. Residence Inn Livermore
5200 Wolf House Dr.
925.606.1980

24. Sands Motel
3787 First St.
925.447.6500

25. SenS Suites Livermore
1000 Airway Blvd.
925.373.1800

26. Springtown Inn
933 Bluebell Dr.
925.449.2211

27. Studio Inn
1321 Portola Ave.
925.447.1515

Fairfield Inn
(opening 2023)

PLEASANTON

28. AC Hotel Pleasanton
5990 Stoneridge Mall Rd.
925.475.4828

29. Best Western Plus Pleasanton Inn
5375 Owens Ct.
925.463.1300

30. Courtyard by Marriott Pleasanton
5059 Hopyard Rd.
925.463.1414

31. DoubleTree by Hilton Pleasanton at the Club
7050 Johnson Dr.
925.463.8000

32. Extended Stay America Pleasanton-Chabot Dr.
4555 Chabot Dr.
925.730.0000

33. Four Points by Sheraton
5115 Hopyard Rd.
925.460.8800

34. Hyatt House
4545 Chabot Dr.
925.730.0070

35. Larkspur Landing Hotel
5535 Johnson Dr.
925.463.1212

36. Motel 6
5102 Hopyard Rd.
925.463.2626

37. Pleasanton Marriott
11950 Dublin Canyon Rd.
925.847.6000

38. Residence Inn Pleasanton
11920 Dublin Canyon Rd.
925.227.0500

39. The Rose Hotel
807 Main St.
925.846.8802

40. Tri Valley Inn & Suites
2025 Santa Rita Rd.
925.846.2742

SpringHill Suites
(opening summer 2023)

TownePlace Suites
(opening late 2023)

NUMBERS CORRESPOND WITH THE MAP ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES



LODGING

DANVILLE

1. Best Western Danville Sycamore Inn

DUBLIN

2. Aloft Dublin-Pleasanton
3. Extended Stay America Dublin-Hacienda Drive
4. Holiday Inn Dublin-Pleasanton
5. Hyatt Place Dublin/Pleasanton
6. La Quinta Inn & Suites

LIVERMORE

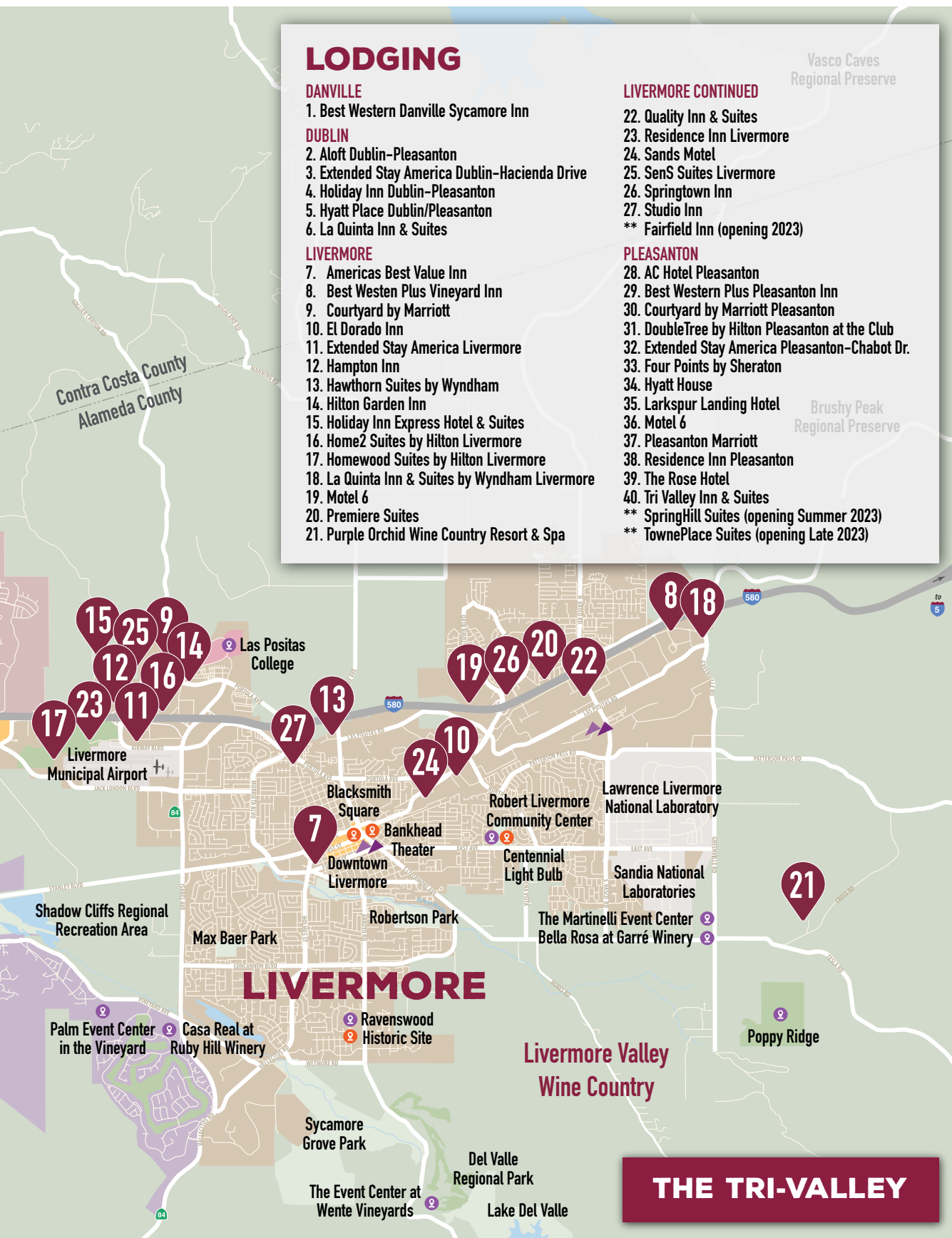
7. Americas Best Value Inn
8. Best Western Plus Vineyard Inn
9. Courtyard by Marriott
10. El Dorado Inn
11. Extended Stay America Livermore
12. Hampton Inn
13. Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham
14. Hilton Garden Inn
15. Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites
16. Home2 Suites by Hilton Livermore
17. Homewood Suites by Hilton Livermore
18. La Quinta Inn & Suites by Wyndham Livermore
19. Motel 6
20. Premiere Suites
21. Purple Orchid Wine Country Resort & Spa

LIVERMORE CONTINUED

22. Quality Inn & Suites
23. Residence Inn Livermore
24. Sands Motel
25. SenS Suites Livermore
26. Springtown Inn
27. Studio Inn
- ** Fairfield Inn (opening 2023)

PLEASANTON

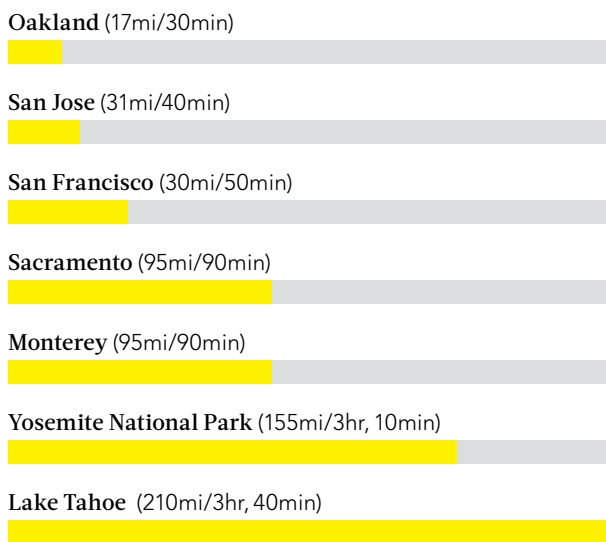
28. AC Hotel Pleasanton
29. Best Western Plus Pleasanton Inn
30. Courtyard by Marriott Pleasanton
31. DoubleTree by Hilton Pleasanton at the Club
32. Extended Stay America Pleasanton-Chabot Dr.
33. Four Points by Sheraton
34. Hyatt House
35. Larkspur Landing Hotel
36. Motel 6
37. Pleasanton Marriott
38. Residence Inn Pleasanton
39. The Rose Hotel
40. Tri Valley Inn & Suites
- ** SpringHill Suites (opening Summer 2023)
- ** TownePlace Suites (opening Late 2023)



THE TRI-VALLEY



DISTANCE CHART (FROM THE TRI-VALLEY)



AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

Spring	Summer
HIGH > 71° / LOW > 45°	HIGH > 87° / LOW > 54°
Fall	Winter
HIGH > 76° / LOW > 48°	HIGH > 59° / LOW > 38°

TRI-TRAVEL

Whether you take a train, plane or automobile, tripping around the Tri-Valley is both easy and accessible.

GETTING HERE

The Tri-Valley is located east of San Francisco and is easily reachable by plane, train, automobile, BART and bus. The closest airport is Oakland International Airport, which is served by AirBART, shuttles, limousines, taxis and public transportation. Pick up visitor information in terminals 1 and 2 of the airport.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

- > **Altamont Corridor Express (ACE).** Makes stops in Livermore and Pleasanton with new Saturday service. 800.411.RAIL, acerail.com
- > **Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) System.** Includes stops at West Dublin/Pleasanton and Dublin/Pleasanton. 510.464.7134, bart.gov
- > **County Connection.** Bus service throughout Contra Costa County. 925.676.7500, countyconnection.com
- > **Wheels bus.** Operated by the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority, Wheels offers connections to Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART), Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) and County Connection. 925.455.7500, wheelsbus.com

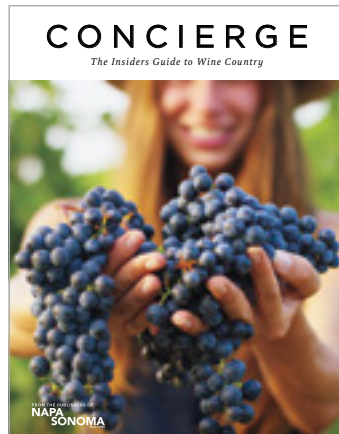
SHUTTLE/LIMOUSINE/TAXI SERVICES

- > **4GQ Limousine Services:** 800.640.LIMO
- > **Black Tie Transportation:** 855.643.9388
- > **Blue Bird Cab Co.:** 925.500.0001
- > **Charity Cab:** 925.353.5357
- > **DeSoto Cab Co.:** 925.777.7777
- > **East Bay Shuttle:** 925.800.4500
- > **Extraordinary Tour Services:** 925.788.5666
- > **Uber or Lyft:** *Download the apps*

FLY IN

- The Tri-Valley is accessible via three Bay Area commercial airports and one municipal airport.
- > **Livermore Municipal Airport (LVK),** 925.960.8220, cityoflivermore.net
 - > **Oakland International Airport (OAK),** 19 miles from the Tri-Valley, 510.563.3300, oaklandairport.com
 - > **Mineta San Jose International Airport (SJC),** 31 miles from the Tri-Valley, 408.392.3600, flysanjose.com
 - > **San Francisco International Airport (SFO),** 37 miles from the Tri-Valley, 650.821.8211, flysfo.com

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