

# CAVIAR AFFAIR

## *Falling in Love with* **East Africa**

### The Global Search for **FINE CASHMERE**

**+ CAVIAR AFFAIR'S TOUR OF NAPA**  
The Secret of Ghost Horse Vineyards

- Flexjet 25 Jet Card Program's Flights of Fancy
- Viva La France! The Ultimate Travel Guide
- Tequila Pairing Parties • Italian Caviar
- The New Classic Timepieces • Sake Gets Sexy



# Meadowood All Stars

**Meadowood offers cocooning serenity at a Napa resort hotel.** by Melanie Lane

THE RESTAURANT AT MEADOWOOD, A LEGENDARY NAPA VALLEY RESORT, has earned top honors from the Michelin's 5th annual San Francisco Bay Area & Wine Country Restaurant 2011 Guide. Chef Christopher Kostow, restaurant director Nathaniel Dorn, and sommelier Rom Toulon earned three stars. This highest honor possible lets diners know that this is "exceptional cuisine, worth a special journey. One always eats extremely well here, sometimes superbly." It is one of only two U.S. restaurants outside New York to hold the distinction.

"One of the great things about cooking in the Napa Valley is that the bar is set at such a high level," says Kostow. "The local vintner community has maintained an unparalleled commitment to excellence in winemaking. The culinary community has followed suit, and Napa Valley is now one of the most exciting places in the world to visit if you love food as well as wine."

Nestled in a forested hillside, Meadowood cottages and suites provide serene and luxurious amenities and services, including spa treatments, golf, tennis, wine education, and croquet lessons. Next to the property is Napa Valley Reserve ([thenapavalleyreserve.com](http://thenapavalleyreserve.com)), an uber-exclusive winery that offers members an opportunity to produce their own wine and peek into a working winery with limited-production tastings and educational wine and food pairings. [meadowood.com](http://meadowood.com)



Clockwise from top: Charred bavette, morels, ramps, and foie gras butter; chef Christopher Kostow; a quiet treeline cottage room with a view of the land.

## special side trips:

**Far Niente:** Founded in Oakville in 1885 and restored in 1979, Far Niente is a benchmark producer of Napa Valley Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon committed to social responsibility. [farniente.com](http://farniente.com)

**Chappellet:** Perched 1,200 feet up rocky eastern slopes above the valley, the family-run winery respects the balance of nature with sustainable farming. Areas surrounding the vineyard are an oasis for birds and insects. Flowering shrubs and plants in the garden and in the wilds provide nectar and pollen. The Cabernet Sauvignon expresses the unique characteristics of the fruit from Pritchard Hill. [chappellet.com](http://chappellet.com)

**Ma(i)sonry:** Ma(i)sonry Napa Valley was built in 1904 as a private residence. The stone manor, with 16th-century furnishings, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The living gallery is a stylized backdrop to appreciate limited-production boutique wines. The collection of nearly 50 artists includes both global and local favorites. [maisonry.com](http://maisonry.com)



Clockwise from right: The community table at Ma(i)sonry; vineyards at Chappellet; the cellar at Far Niente.

BOTTOM RIGHT: PETER SUKONIK; ALL OTHERS COURTESY OF COMPANIES

northern  
california

**Unparalleled luxury  
travel to Napa  
Valley Wine Country.**

By Polina Steier



# flights of fancy

**HERE'S A NEW TWIST FOR THE JET SET:** The Flexjet 25 Jet Card program, operated by U.S. air carrier Jet Solutions, is offering a private dining experience and cooking lesson with a master chef, along with the opportunity to share a glass of fine wine with its winemaker—all while raising funds for charity.

Jet cards are ideal for those who fly fewer than 100 hours a year and who wish to eliminate the need for an upfront capital investment.

This Napa Valley experience is available to customers at no extra cost, and begins with an exclusive evening in the heart of Wine Country with world-acclaimed Master Chef Morimoto at your service. Honored with a Michelin star and best

known for his appearances on the Food Network's "Iron Chef America," Chef Morimoto will personally prepare Jet Solutions' Flexjet 25 Jet Card program guests a meticulously planned feast that seamlessly integrates Western and Japanese culinary styles, his signature cuisine.

Guests will also join him for a private, hands-on cooking class and saké tasting at Morimoto Napa, his newest and first West Coast restaurant that opened July 2010 in downtown Napa.

As part of this package, customers receive two four-day, all-access passes to the prestigious Auction Napa Valley, one of the most renowned wine auctions and the industry's charity event of the year. Program highlights include the "Taste





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*The Flexjet 25 Jet Card –  
Napa Valley Edition  
pairs world-class travel  
with an exclusive Wine  
Country experience.*



Clockwise from top: A Learjet 40 XR prepares for take-off; a Morimoto dish; Iron Chef Morimoto; the interior of the Challenger 300.

Napa Valley” event, featuring more than 100 vintners pouring their best releases, along with restaurateurs, artisan food purveyors and musicians, all presented in the culinary heart of the valley. Also included is the Napa Valley Barrel-Futures Auction, giving an opportunity for attendees to be among the first to experience the next great vintages, along with the ability to sample wines from the barrel, before bottling.

As part of the popular “Friday Night in Napa Valley” vintner-hosted dinner parties, guests may join the most renowned winemakers in the world in their own homes and wineries. On Saturday, they may attend the exciting Live Auction to bid on one-of-a-kind lots, including everything from rare bottlings and collections of Napa Valley wine to access to private once-in-a-lifetime events and wonderful get-away packages. Since the auction’s inception in 1981, this annual fund-raiser has donated nearly \$100 million to local charities.

Guests also will be treated to a three-night stay at Meadowood Napa Valley luxury resort located on a private, 250-acre estate set in one of the most scenic areas of Napa Valley. Property highlights include a spa, croquet lawns, golf, swimming, tennis, a resident wine educator and Michelin two-star dining in The Restaurant at Meadowood. Recipients will also have access to a personal driver and luxury vehicle throughout the weekend.

The Flexjet 25 Jet Card program is operated under Part 135 by U.S. air carrier Jet Solutions, LLC and provides access to legendary Bombardier Learjet and Challenger aircraft. Guests choose the type of aircraft or combination of aircraft that best suits their needs. They fly according to a personally preferred travel calendar, and may change to larger or smaller aircraft when needed. World-class professionals take care of every detail, from booking the flight to catering and ground transportation. [flexjet25.com/napavalley](http://flexjet25.com/napavalley).