



SEE YOU THERE

October **2022**

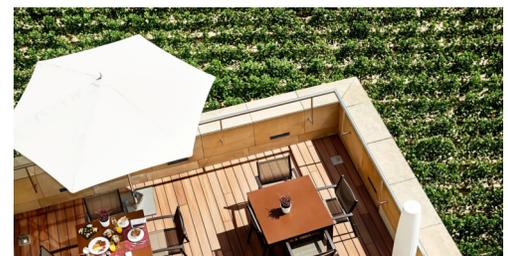
Clients have been loving various Winelands so I wanted to spotlight some popular options. Of course this is just a drop in the bucket but nonetheless some fabulous options.

Spain has been and continues to be a HOT HOT HOT destination for wine (culture, food, sightseeing...) and has numerous wine regions.

The Marqués de Riscal city of Wine, located in Elciego (Álava), offers the experience of exploring the history of the bodega since its foundation in 1858 to the modern day, with the chance to enjoy wine through the use of all five senses.

There is a lot to see and do once you arrive. The Original Bodega was built in 1860 and is where the treasures of Marqués de Riscal are kept, the Bottle cellar for ancient wines. Next you can visit the first enlargement of the bodega, a building dating from 1883 constructed in the Bordeaux style and known as El Palomar (the Dovecote) where these days the company's premium wines are made. Finally, the last visual impact will hit you from above, where, contrasting with the tradition of the various different sandstone buildings, you can distinguish the avant-garde style of the 21st century of the Hotel Marqués de Riscal.

This stunning chateau was designed by internationally renowned architect Frank Gehry and is a true masterpiece. Located in "The City of Wine," this 5-star hotel is truly an adventure of a lifetime. Enjoy local cuisine and fine wines at 1860 Tradición or Marqués de Riscal Restaurant, both overseen by Michelin-starred Chef Francis Paniego, or soak up the benefits of the grape at the Vinothérapie® SPA Caudalie Marqués de Riscal. So much to see and do here, it is a destination on its own.



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Human Connection

One of the biggest factors that sets me apart from other advisors, is my commitment to building relationships with not only my valued clients but also my partners. I spend a fair amount of my time gaining knowledge and understanding between the various options out there and have meaningful relationships with hotel owners, tour providers, and on-the-ground contacts around the world who can help me flip an ordinary vacation into an extraordinary one.

When you check into a hotel room and your favorite bottle of wine is on the table... I am able to make that happen with these connections. If you've always dreamed of meeting the wine maker at a wine estate... I likely know someone who knows someone to make that a reality. These are the types of connections that get made when attending a conference such as Virtuoso Travel Week or the upcoming DUCO conference I am attending in France in a few days. A lot of these conferences are by invitation only as



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A really tough choice on options to showcase because there are many outstanding options but this region truly is something special, so I decided to go with it... Delaire Graff Estate sits high on the Helshoogte Pass, overlooking the neat vineyards and rugged mountain peaks of the Stellenbosch Valley. Rated in equal measures for its views, wines, cuisine, hospitality and art; this award-winning estate is one of the most prestigious properties in the Cape and a fantastic choice for an indulgent Cape Winelands escape.



A member of the exclusive Relais & Château collection, Delaire Graff has 16 spacious lodges and the Owner's Villa. The lodge interiors are luxurious yet understated, the walls hung with contemporary South African art. Indeed, throughout the estate you'll find art pieces from the owner's carefully curated private collection: Tretchikoff's Chinese Girl hangs at the entrance to the wine cellar and bronze Dylan Lewis cheetahs pace the lawns.

Delaire Graff Lodges & Spa is one of those properties that you simply won't want to leave. Relax next to your (heated) private pool while your butler serves you a chilled glass of wine, take a stroll around the flower-filled gardens, go wine tasting, browse the exquisite jewelry at their Graff Diamond store or opt for a treatment at the estate spa (again with those ever-present views). There's even a well-equipped gym on the property.

In the evening you have the choice between 2 highly acclaimed restaurants: Delaire Graff Restaurant has a contemporary menu accompanied by exceptional South African wines while Indochine offers a fusion of Asian-inspired flavors. If you'd prefer a romantic dinner for two, simply ask your butler for dinner to be served in the privacy of your lodge.



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