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MYTOWNE SILICON VALLEY

CRUSH  
CHRISTMAS  
CHAOS  
ORGANIZING FOR  
THE HOLIDAYS

HOLIDAY  
SHOPPING  
GUIDE

DESTINATION  
DEER VALLEY  
LUXURY AND ADVENTURE  
IN UTAH

WEEKEND GETAWAY  
SONOMA

MACARTHUR PLACE HOTEL & SPA

COZY FALL  
SUPPERS

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**SILICON VALLEY KIDS**

Teens & Alcohol  
Traveling with Kids  
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## A FABULOUS FALL GETAWAY

*A weekend in Sonoma*

**t** HERE IS NO BETTER TIME TO VISIT SONOMA THAN DURING THE AUTUMN MONTHS WHEN THE GRAPEVINES TRANSFORM FROM VERDANT SHADES OF GREEN TO RICH TONES OF BURGUNDY, RUST, AND GOLD. Located in the heart of wine country, Sonoma is a laid-back, quieter and less touristy alternative to glitzy neighboring Napa.

For a truly sumptuous experience, a stay at **MacArthur Place Hotel & Spa** is highly recommended. This charming property is the ultimate in luxury. The hotel is reminiscent of a fine country estate with lovely landscaped grounds featuring lush green lawns and fragrant flowers. Each villa features guestrooms with quaint balconies or front porches with wicker seating so you can sip your wine while enjoying the gorgeous grounds. If it gets a little too cool for comfort, move the wine party to one of the fire pits that are dotted throughout the property.

Guestrooms and cottages are beyond luxe with upscale furnishings, heavenly beds dressed in the finest linens, and ultra-modern touches like light switches on both sides of the bed that control the lighting throughout the entire room and motion sensitive floor lighting in the bathroom that switches on the moment your feet touch the floor. The well-appointed bathrooms feature spacious showers, and some rooms also feature an



additional shower outside in the very private garden for those who wish to enjoy their ablutions outdoors. Thoughtful extras include complimentary snacks and bottles of water in the rooms and fresh baked cookies and a soothing facial mask at bedtime. Truly, there is no detail that has been overlooked when it comes to comfort and hospitality at MacArthur Place.

There are many excellent dining options in Sonoma and the surrounding areas, but don't miss a chance to enjoy a meal or at least a cocktail and a nosh at the hotel's onsite restaurant, **Layla**. The bright airy dining room and the farm-to-table approach to creating innovative dishes served by friendly wait staff make Layla a pleasant place to nibble and imbibe. Start with a variety of shared plates like pillowy Parker House rolls served with chicken drippings and sherry vinegar, fresh chilled oysters, and perfectly grilled crispy octopus. Paired with one of the signature or seasonal cocktails, it's a great way to sample what the kitchen has to offer.

If you can tear yourself away from the posh digs at MacArthur Place, there's plenty to see and do in Sonoma. The hotel is a mere four blocks from **Sonoma Plaza** where there are boutiques, art galleries, restaurants and wine bars to explore. Fall is harvest time in wine country and festival season is in full swing; in November check out the **Food & Wine Affair**. Sonoma is also ideal for enjoying the great outdoors. Bike ride along picturesque country roads, hike through the nearby redwoods, or drive along the coast and stop at one of the many beautiful and peacefully unpopulated beaches. And of course, there's the obvious: wine tasting. Sonoma boasts several scenic wineries and wine tasting fees in and around Sonoma are often less expensive than in Napa and, at some places, tastings are free (Adastra Wine, Korbel Champagne Cellars, and Sonoma Portworks to name a few). ●