

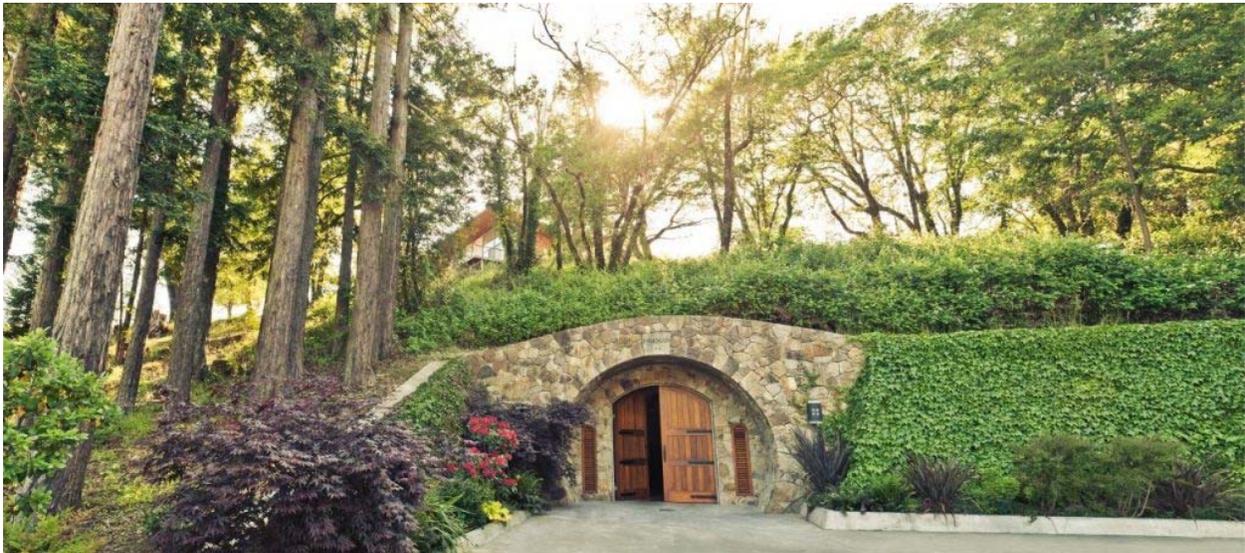
# sonoma magazine

Eat + Drink

## 5 West County Wineries to Visit Right Now

by [Sarah Stierch](#)

West Sonoma County – or simply West County to locals – is one of the most beautiful rural areas of the North Bay. From farm to ocean, the area west of Highway 101 offers boutique and luxury wineries producing highly coveted wines in settings that inspire a deep admiration for nature and an appreciation for the craft of winemaking...



[Freeman Winery](#), Sebastopol

Tokyo-born winemaker Akiko Freeman crafts Burgundian-inspired, cool-climate Chardonnay and Pinot Noir using estate grapes from the Sonoma Coast and Russian River. Freeman's unpretentious winery in Green Valley, near Sebastopol, features an expansive wine cave used to age the limited production wines. Japanese aesthetic follows each wine, including their elegant 2015 Ryo-fu Chardonnay. Ryo-fu means "cool breeze" in Japanese.



The winery produces 5,000 cases and they are only available by allocation. The winery offers private tastings, which are often hosted by Freeman herself, that include a tasting of current releases in the caves, paired with a visit to Gloria Vineyard, the winery's first estate vineyard. Tastings start at \$30. Appointment only.

[www.sonomamag.com/sonoma-west-county-wineries/#slide-3](http://www.sonomamag.com/sonoma-west-county-wineries/#slide-3)