



for East Coasters. Long Island has been referred to as America's Bordeaux due to its similar climate. While some might be surprised that grapes can grow well in the Northeast, the moderating effects of Long Island Sound to the north and the Atlantic Ocean to the south provide a frost-free growing season of about seven months. Chardonnay and Syrah lovers will have a field day at Long Island's more than 30 wineries, most of which lie within a 20-mile stretch along the North Fork.

The Finger Lakes region contains even more wineries to sample—more than 100! This is a beautiful, bucolic region with wine trails winding around Seneca, Keuka, and Cayuga lakes. Don't miss out on the amazing and affordable white wines of this region—particularly the Rieslings.

Volcanoes and Vino

Things are laid-back in Hawaii. "Just come through the



VIVE LA FRANCE!

If you have a truly special occasion coming up, check out the tours offered by French Wine Explorers, a Maryland-based company whose mission is providing premier French wine experiences, whether you want to explore Bordeaux, Burgundy, Champagne, or the Rhône or Loire Valleys.

Small-group tours from four to six days include gourmet meals with cellar masters and chateaux owners, informal classes and tastings, visits to cultural sites, and more. You can also customize your wine vacation throughout the French (or Italian) wine regions or take a barge cruise that includes tastings from the 33 grand crus (vineyards) of Burgundy.

gate and knock on the door around 9:30 a.m.," says tasting-room manager Cathy Nyberg about the free vineyard tours offered at Volcano Winery on Hawaii's Big Island.

If you prefer, there's a \$25 tour (per person) that includes the vineyards, vat rooms, and a private tasting, or the \$45 (per person) tour with a visit to Volcano Village and the nearby tea fields for a tour and tastings.

In Kilauea's shadow, Volcano Winery produces several vintages: Symphony (a Muscat of Alexandria/Grenache Gris cross with a peach, apricot, and lychee bouquet); yellow guava and jaboticaba wines that bring out the tropical flavors; and an award-winning macadamia honey wine, perfect for desserts.

California Dreamin'

Napa is to vineyards as Broadway is to theater—all the biggest and brightest stars are here. And there are plenty of spas to round out your vacation, many of which offer beneficial grape ingredients in their treatments.

While Napa has nearly 350 vineyards, here's our short list for places you may want to visit: Robert Mondavi Winery (for the Cabernet Sauvignon that put Napa on the map); Domaine Chandon (for its sparkling wines); and Francis Ford Coppola's Rubicon Estate (for, well, just about anything the Godfather suggests). 🍷