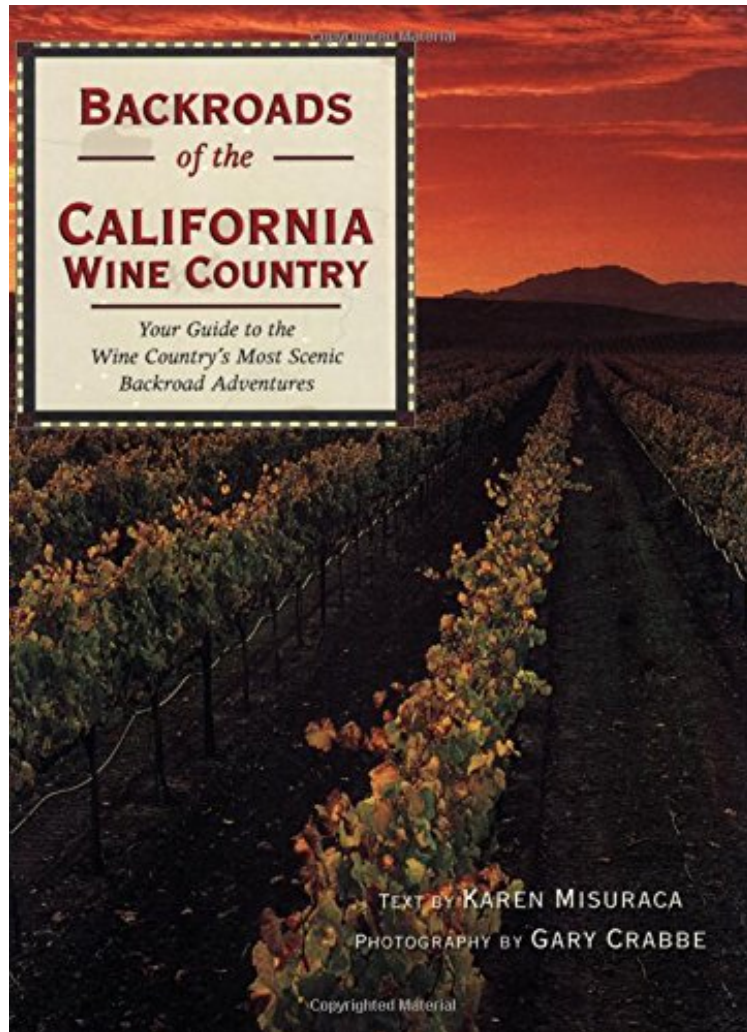


[Ebook pdf] Backroads of the California Wine Country: Your Guide to the Wine Country's Most Scenic Backroad Adventures

## Backroads of the California Wine Country: Your Guide to the Wine Country's Most Scenic Backroad Adventures

*Karen Misuraca*

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**Karen Misuraca : Backroads of the California Wine Country: Your Guide to the Wine Country's Most Scenic Backroad Adventures** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Backroads of the California Wine Country: Your Guide to the Wine Country's Most Scenic Backroad Adventures:

11 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Value By Richard Wong I lived in the Bay Area for several years and to be honest, the Wine Country is not really my cup of tea. However, the images in this book by Gary Crabbe are amazing and makes me feel as if I were there and enjoying myself. It takes a truly dedicated

photographer to make such a wonderful collection of images of Wine Country. Many photographers have published photos of the Wine Country but these are some of the best photos I've seen from there. The text by Karen Misuraca is well-written as well. It's informative going over a touch of history without over doing it and takes you on a literary road trip through the heart of the Wine Country. The photos and text compliment each other well and the book has a fair amount of both. In 160 pages, it's packed with meat as it works both as a photo book and travel guide. If you'd like a personally signed copy, Mr. Crabbe is selling them through his website as well. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The beauty of vineyards! By Star A. King Purchased this as a gift for someone who loves all aspects of wines; the excitement of a beautiful vineyard and the anticipation of where it leads! 21 of 22 people found the following review helpful. Past the Tasting Rooms into the Gorgeous Hills! By Donald Mitchell When many people visit California to tour wineries, they head for Napa Valley on the weekend and sit in traffic jams for hours on route 29. Realizing that everyone in the slowly moving train may not be totally sober, the visitors think about how much they would like to be someplace else. A little known fact is that there are back roads into virtually every wine region in California that offer stunning vistas, gorgeous greenery and constantly changing scenes around every curve. Backroads of the California Wine Country is a great resource for those inexperienced visitors. Otherwise, these well-meaning travelers will miss the best of what the wine country has to offer: Scintillating scenery! The photographs do a great job of picking up on the amazing sights. Here are a few of my favorites: p. 6 -- The moon rises over vineyards in Napa County's Carneros region. p. 11 -- A dramatic sunset over Napa Valley wine country. p. 13 -- Cirrus clouds float above the hills of the Redwood Valley of Mendocino County. pp. 18-19 -- The early morning sky glows orange in the hills above Ukiah. p. 22 -- Orr Springs Road twists and turns through some of the most pristine and dramatic landscapes in wine country. p. 30 -- This lovely tree-lined drive leads to Fetzer Vineyards, a wholly organic winery and the sixth-largest premium wine producer in the country. p. 31 -- The warm valleys around Hopland offer an ideal climate for growing grapes as well as apples and pears. p. 34 -- Mount Konocti, illuminated by the setting sun, looms large above this Lake County vineyard. p. 35 -- Peaceful at sunrise, Clear Lake State Park. p. 35 -- The vibrant flower gardens of Tulip Hill Winery. p. 38 -- A distant moon sets beyond a winter vineyard in the Valley of the Moon. pp. 42-43 -- Vineyards stretch across the Alexander Valley in northern Sonoma County. p. 47 -- Downtown Geyserville is lined with charming buildings. p. 83 -- A rainbow forms. p. 90 -- Hot air ballooning. p. 94 -- Winery at Groth Vineyards. p. 99 -- Grape vines and mustard plants. Nice work, Mr. Crabbe! The text is equally inspired with a nice mix of California history, wine background, local features, and suggestions for activities you can enjoy. The text is also well endowed with maps to show you the directions of the backroads that you are being encouraged to pursue. Here are some of the unexpected materials: p. 24 -- Seabiscuit's home in Willits. p. 36 -- Organic farming methods. p. 45 -- Cyrus Alexander's founding of the Alexander Valley. p. 61 -- Jack London in the Sonoma Valley. p. 89 -- The soil of Rutherford. p. 108 -- Apple Hill, east of Placerville. p. 117 -- The Gold Rush. p. 125 -- Covered bridges. p. 133 -- Steinbeck's world. Here are the areas covered: The Redwood Valley in Mendocino County, Anderson Valley, Hopland and the McDowell Valley, Lake County, Alexander Valley, Dry Creek Valley, The Russian River Valley, Green Valley, Valley of the Moon, Sonoma Valley, Northern Napa Valley, St. Helena, Eastern Napa Valley, Yountville, Oakville, Mount Veeder, Town of Napa, Wooden Valley, Los Carneros, El Dorado County, Shenandoah Valley, Calaveras County, Santa Cruz Mountains, Carmel Valley, Salinas Valley, San Juan Bautista, Paso Robles, Edna Valley, Santa Barbara County, Santa Ynez Valley. Nice work, Ms. Misuraca! Don't miss this gorgeous volume. It'll transform your life if you follow its advice.

Wine Grapes have been cultivated in California's verdant valleys since the days of the Spanish missions in the eighteenth century. Since the 1970s, the California wine country has been among the world's premier wine-growing regions, and California wines hold their own against the best of Europe and elsewhere. Beyond the well-known vintners of the Sonoma and Napa valleys, the Golden State is home to quality wine producers from Mendocino to Santa Barbara. The temperate climate and lush landscapes that make this state an ideal locale for wine production also offer spectacular scenery for leisurely drives and backroads adventures. A tour through the wine country is a tour through the history of California, a journey back to the Old West, a wilderness adventure, an encounter with American literary icons, and much more. The mystique and history of California's wine regions are captured in full glory in *Backroads of the California Wine Country*. From the misty northern appellations of Mendocino County to the hot, dry flatlands of Paso Robles, in the wilds of the Santa Cruz Mountains and along the placid Russian River, writer Karen Misuraca and photographer Gary Crabbe lead you on an informative and colorful tour of the most spectacular landscapes of California, offering myriad excursions for wine-lovers and weekend adventurers alike.

About the Author Karen Misuraca is a travel, golf, and outdoor writer from Sonoma. She is the award-winning author of *The California Coast* as well as *Our San Francisco*, *Backroads of the California Wine Country*, *Quick Escapes from San Francisco*, and other travel books. [www.karenmisuraca.com](http://www.karenmisuraca.com)