

Bouchaine Vineyards Offers Falconry Experience, Happy Tails & Trails Dog Walk

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Bouchaine Vineyards began their popular Falconry Experience last year to great acclaim. Working with West Coast Falconry, Northern California's premiere resource for falconry education and services, the Falconry Vineyard Experience begins at the tasting room and continues with a walk through the vineyard while learning about Bouchaine's vines, terroir, history and sustainable farming.

Upon arrival at the Vineyard Terraces, where the panoramic views of San Pablo Bay, San Francisco, Mt. Tamalpais and the famed Los Carneros AVA await, guests learn about Bouchaine's environmental vineyard management programs with a regal hawk on the arm and in the sky. The birds swoop through the air in a display of their astonishing agility, return to their handler, and then to the gloved arm of each guest.

With six falcons, nine hawks, three owls and a vulture, West Coast Falconry is one of the few falconries to hold a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Special Use permit, allowing a trained bird to fly to a guest's gloved arm or a guest to hold a bird for photos.

Guests are invited to bring their own picnic lunch to pair with five wines that will be provided for tasting in the lush gardens overlooking the vineyards. Falconers will be available to introduce an additional group of amazing raptors at this time.

Bouchaine Vineyards uses falconry for bird abatement daily during the final months of the growing season, a procedure in which trained falcons and hawks are used to intimidate and chase pest birds from vineyards. This is a natural predator-versus-prey relationship that allows pests that cause damage to grapes to be removed to a different location through repeated "flyovers," resulting in a quiet, discreet, organic, eco-friendly and sustainable abatement procedure. No birds harmed in the process.

Upcoming Falconry Vineyard Experiences are scheduled for:
July 7; September 1; October 13; and November 10

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Tyler Hinsley with Don Diego *Photo by Carolyn Younger*

The experiences are from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., and are available only by reservation by calling (800) 654-WINE or (707) 252-9065. The cost of \$200 per person includes the falconry experience in the vineyards with views of the Bay and Carneros, followed by a tasting of five of Bouchaine's award-winning wines and a reserved table in the Bouchaine gardens.

Private Falconry Vineyard Experiences are available for groups of up to 25 and are an exceptional venue for corporate outings and team-building programs.

The Bouchaine Happy Tails & Trails Dog Walks are Scheduled Monthly on Sunday Mornings Through 2019

Guests and their furry friends are hosted for a vineyard walk that begins at the Bouchaine Vineyards tasting room and proceeds through the vines to the Vineyard Terraces overlooking the San Francisco Bay. Upon arrival each human guest receives a glass of wine and upon return to the tasting room, a bag of doggie treats are provided for each four-legged guest.

Dates for the Happy Tails & Trails Dog Walk are July 21, August 11, September 22, October 27, November 24, and December 15.

The Happy Tails & Trails Dog Walk is from 9 to 11 a.m. Reservations are required, please email atrimpe@bouchaine.com or call (707) 603-7404. Participation is \$20 per person. All dogs must be on leash.

Family-owned Bouchaine Vineyards is located at 1075 Buchli Station Road, Napa, CA 94559. The Winery is open daily for tasting and tours. Reservations are required for groups of six or more. More information is available at www.bouchaine.com or by calling 1-800-654-WINE or (707) 252-9065.