



Robb Report



Front Runners July 2015: California Dreaming



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Rediscovering a trio of Golden State retreats.

FARM FRESH In April, Carmel Valley's **Bernardus Lodge & Spa** (bernarduslodge.com) unveiled an all-new look with gray-stained French-oak floors, mercury-glass chandeliers, and Italian stonework. The 57-room wine-country retreat also debuted a restaurant that serves garden-vegetable-focused dishes in a quintessentially laid-back Central California setting.

CRUSH COURSE Guests of **Rosewood CordeValle's** (rosewoodhotels.com) new two-day winemaking program can create a custom blend, from grape to label, and discover the ins and outs of the picturesque Clos La Chance winery in San Martin. Launched last fall, the experience (\$31,000 per couple) includes 25 cases of the participants' signature wine after two years, or immediate deliveries of the vintner's own blend.

INN STYLE Big Sur's storied 243-acre **Ventana Inn & Spa** (ventanainn.com) in February finalized a seven-year renovation that has infused its 59 rooms and cabins with country charm and contemporary furnishings. The chef Paul Corsentino has also joined the resort, bringing a fresh new American-cuisine menu to the alfresco restaurant.