Wine Surprises

From the big city to the high desert, wineries are coming to country near you

As Seen In. . . .



SOLANO COUNTY, CA Few drivers buzzing along Interstate 80 through Fairfield, California, realize they're passing by rolling valleys dotted with family farms and down-home tasting rooms. On the side roads and byways of this wine region, there's more traffic trouble from wild turkeys waddling across the road than from cars. Green Valley and its neighbor Suisun Valley remain undiscovered and unpretentious, much as Napa was in the 1960s. Cool afternoon breezes from San Francisco Bay bring down high daytime temperatures—a good thing for grapes.

Ledgewood Creek Winery and Vineyards The tasting room is set among the vines. 4589 Abernathy Rd.; 707/426-4424. Wooden Valley Winery Got its start at the end of Prohibition. Closed Mon. 4756 Suisun Valley Rd.; 707/864-0730.

-DAVE WEINSTEIN